

Saturday 4th July, 2026

APT: Birmingham Teaching

**Ethics
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Reading List:

Professional standards

Please read the British Psychoanalytic Council documents: Standards of Conduct, Practice and Ethics, and Guidance, Both published November, 2024. Please notice any areas that you have questions about or comments to make so that you can raise them in discussion. The documents are downloadable at:

<https://www.bpc.org.uk/professionals/registrants-hub/requirements/standards-of-conduct-practice-and-ethics/>

Fitness to Practice

I am not asking you to read in detail all of the BPC Fitness to Practice documentation (there is a lot of it!), but you should gain broad awareness of what happens if a complaint is made against a registrant, and be aware that there is more detailed documentation of the process there if required. Please read the sections 'What is Fitness to Practice?', and 'Fitness to Practice Hearings' to give you an overview. You'll find the documents here:

<https://www.bpc.org.uk/regulation/>

Interim Outcomes and Fitness to Practice Outcomes

The findings of formal proceedings of the BPC Fitness to Practice Committee are published on the website. Please read one of the decision documents in detail, so that you have a real example to refer to in discussion. You'll find the documents here:.

<https://www.bpc.org.uk/regulation/complaints-decisions/>

Further Reading

Sachs, A., and Simpson, V. (Eds) 2023 The Psychotherapist and the Professional Complaint: The Shadow Side of Therapy. London: Karnac.

This book is structured in 3 sections, looking at clinical perspectives, historical perspectives and finally looks towards the future. I particularly like chapter 9 by Philip Stokoe on 'The unique nature of boundaries in psychoanalytic therapy and the implications for ethics and complaints procedures.'

Withers, R. (Ed.) 2003 Controversies in Analytical Psychology. Hove and New York: Brunner-Routledge.

This is a collection of chapters that ask a range of questions of Jungian theories and practices that have ethical connotations: Are they homophobic? Do they denigrate women? Do they confuse absolute with narrative myth? Is the frequency of sessions chosen for political rather than clinical reasons?

I am looking forward to lively discussion with you.

