

REAL CPD Membership Criteria

(Regulated | Ethical | Accessible | Lived Experience-Led)

Who Can Join?

REAL CPD welcomes applications from:

- Practitioners (therapists, coaches, peer supporters, facilitators, educators)
- Lived experience professionals
- Trainers and course creators
- Community and grassroots leaders
- Holistic health practitioners
- Organisations aligned with trauma-informed values

We do not gatekeep based on how or where you trained. We care about who you are, how you practise, and how you keep others safe.

Core Membership Criteria

1. Demonstrate Understanding of Safety and Safeguarding

- Knowledge of safeguarding principles
- Recognise signs of trauma and distress
- Understand consent and boundaries

2. Evidence Reflective and Relational Practice

- Aware of personal impact and power dynamics
- Engage in self-reflection, supervision or peer support
- Willing to take accountability and repair harm

3. Respect Lived Experience as Valuable Knowledge

- Honour diverse learning paths
- Integrate lived experience with integrity
- Advocate for inclusivity and equity

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4. Apply Trauma-Informed Principles in Practice

- Understand nervous system regulation
- Pace work appropriately
- Prioritise emotional safety

5. Commit to Ethical Integrity

- Maintain clear boundaries
- Be transparent and honest
- Avoid harm, misrepresentation, and exploitation

What We Accept as Evidence

We accept:

- Reflective statements
- CPD logs or peer feedback
- Examples of work or facilitation
- Safeguarding certificates (or willingness to complete training)
- Access to reflective practice or supervision

You do not need a degree - just insight, integrity and awareness.

Membership Tiers (Optional)

- REAL Member: For frontline practitioners
- REAL CPD Trainer: For course/workshop facilitators
- REAL Organisation Partner: For aligned services
- REAL Ally: For supporters of the mission

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Safeguarding Check

All members must:

- Agree to abide by the REAL CPD Charter
- Commit to ethical conduct
- Report concerns appropriately
- Hold appropriate insurance if practising independently

How to Apply

You'll be asked for:

- A short reflective form (your path, practice, and passion)
- Relevant evidence
- Agreement to our ethical statement
- One-off or annual contribution (with sliding scale options)