

Ethics

All teachers listed on the Open Sangha Foundation site have committed to the Oath Against Harm from the Alliance for Buddhist Ethics.

In the practice of the Dharma, I hold the student-teacher relationship to be a sacred connection which prioritises the spiritual development, maturation, and well-being of the student.

Similarly, I hold that Dharma organisations exist to provide safe environments which allow those who practice the Dharma to thrive in supportive communities, founded on aspirations of good-will for all, and supported by a strong ethical foundation of non-harming.

I acknowledge that any behaviour which would be categorised as abusive—whether emotionally, physically, financially, psychologically or sexually—or which is exploitative, coercive, or an abuse of power, or which attempts to cover-up such behaviour, is harmful and unnecessary in the practice of the Dharma. It is unacceptable in all circumstances.

I am aware that harm has been caused by failures to meet these standards in the past, and I declare my commitment to maintaining them for the well-being and benefit of all. May this commitment help the Dharma to flourish, both now and in the future, and may it help to alleviate suffering and create a more compassionate world.

And to these additional guidelines the Association for Spiritual Integrity Teacher Ethics Code:

Being self-aware, open, and humble about the limitations of our knowledge and experience Making only honest, realistic statements regarding the benefits of our teachings, practices, courses, and other offerings.

Refraining from giving counsel in matters outside of our areas of training and expertise, and making appropriate referrals as needed.