



parenting UK

Annual review 2010

Welcome from our chair

As we approach the end of 2010, families are facing stiff challenges presented by the economic climate; and there will be further changes to face in the light of coming changes to policy around families and family support. But it is important to keep in mind the new Government's belief that "strong and stable families of all kinds are the bedrock of a strong and stable society" as Parenting UK and our members continue to do all we can to make sure that families are well supported.



For Parenting UK, 2009–10 presented an opportunity to consider where we wanted to be and where we needed to be going, resulting in a more streamlined and focused team, and putting our members at the heart of everything we do. We have concentrated on increasing engagement with our members, and diversifying our offer to provide high-quality, professional resources that will support them in their work.

A key highlight of 2009–10 was Parenting UK's partnership in the development and launch of Parentchannel.tv, an innovative new online resource for parents of children aged 5–19 offering free advice in short, engaging videos. It's fabulous – innovative, eye-catching and well-informed! Parentchannel.tv draws on experts from across the parenting sector, and by March 2011 will offer nearly 200 online videos on topics spanning the categories of behaviour, learning and well-being. Providing opportunities for our members to share best practice and learn from their peers is key to our membership offer. In 2009–10 we hosted five successful events on topical parenting issues. During 2009–10, Parenting UK was selected from a wide group of organisations as the nominating body for the parenting sector to feed into the Children's Workforce Development Council Members Board.

We were also working in a rapidly changing sector, with the closure of the National Academy for Parenting Practitioners and the transfer of responsibility for the parenting workforce to the Children's Workforce Development Council. Parenting UK will continue its role in this new landscape, championing the role of parenting practitioners and ensuring our members can support parents as best they can. In challenging economic circumstances, we will continue to promote the critically important role of parenting and the belief that all parents should be offered parenting support and the opportunity to improve their parenting skills. We know that this is the key factor in children's emotional and social well-being – and key for their educational attainment too.

Warm thanks to all of you who have helped Parenting UK over the last year.

Dame Jane Roberts

About Parenting UK

Parenting UK is a national membership organisation formed in 1995 for people working with parents. We enable over 1,000 parenting practitioners to deliver quality services which parents need by giving them access to the tools to do the job and ensuring that their voices are heard by policy makers.

Parenting education and support enables parents, prospective parents and those in a parenting role to improve their understanding of their own and their children's personal, social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs, and the context in which family life takes place. This enhances family life and the contribution which families make to society.

Parenting UK's membership is growing and we are working hard to ensure we reach all the right people. Our bimonthly news bulletin has featured topics such as parental engagement in schools, parenting teenagers and working with fathers. We also offer members weekly ebulletins, online networking, discussions and debate about key issues; job vacancies; and events for our members and the sector in general.



Our key priorities

- to be a one-stop-shop for people who work with parents, providing advice on skills and resources, and the latest news, and research from the parenting sector
- to ensure the views of anyone working with parents are heard and help shape future policies and strategy
- to promote the work of people providing parenting education and support to the wider public, media and other organisations
- to promote best practice in parenting support, education and skills among our members and the public
- to work alongside government and other organisations to provide and promote information about parenting support and education



Supporting our members

Parenting UK's main priority is to support our members who form the vital backbone to our work, our cause and our future. Providing opportunities for members to share best practice and learn from their peers is key to our membership offer. In 2009-10 we hosted five successful events on topical parenting issues, with 85% of delegates at our *Parenting Support - building blocks for a strong workforce* conference rating it as good or excellent. We also held a debate on single parents, and a conference around supporting vulnerable families.

Parenting UK has also convened four special interest groups from our membership including a reference group to feed into the functional mapping of the sector and a group linked to the Children's Workforce Development Council's Member's Board.

We keep our members updated with our bimonthly bulletin, featuring topics such as young parents, early intervention and parents with learning disabilities. We also send out weekly ebulletins, and maintain a parenting education library catalogue available to our members online.

We have represented the sector by sitting on working groups including the NCB sex education forum, the Family Nurse Partnership RCT evaluation steering group and LLUK's functional mapping group as well as responding to consultations on issues such as parenting outcomes and parental engagement tools.

Parenting UK works to promote best practice among the sector including producing In Practice briefing papers on topics such as Working with Fathers, Working with Stepfamilies and a paper around Single Parents in collaboration with Gingerbread. In partnership with the Fatherhood Institute and Wilson Sherriff, we also completed a project for CWDC: Embedding the participation of parents and carers.

Parenting UK will continue to provide a voice for the sector at national level, responding to consultations based upon views from our members gleaned through events and online discussion, and sitting on advisory groups and committees.

Financial overview

During 2009–10, Parenting UK received £394,657 and spent £427,461. The deficit for the year of £32,804 was primarily due to using restricted funding received in previous years within projects due for completion at 31 March 2010. Further information is available in our annual accounts which will be available on the Charity Commission website. A balance budget is forecast for 2010–11.

Keep in touch

www.parentinguk.org

www.twitter.com/parentinguk

Our thanks to our trustees:

Dame Jane Roberts DBE (Chair)

Hetty Einzig

Simon Goodall CBE

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