

# Review of 2008-09

# parenting UK

Parenting UK is a national membership organisation formed in 1995 for people working with parents. We enable 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.



# Our achievements 2008-09



## What did we do?

In early 2008-09 a lot was changing in Parenting UK after the work involved in setting up the National Academy for Parenting Practitioners. In September 2008, we welcomed Pamela Park as the new Chief Executive who has since undertaken a review of Parenting UK's strategy and structure. At the heart of this review was a members' survey to determine the key needs of our membership in the future.

Our members told us that they most valued Parenting UK's role:

- in keeping them up to date with developments in the parenting sector – receiving information from an organisation with expertise in the field
- in providing the opportunity to network and keep in touch with other parenting practitioners
- providing a voice for practitioners at a national level.

As a result of the review, Parenting UK is a more efficient and robust organisation, building on our history as a grassroots organisation for people who work with parents.

We ended the financial year as a smaller but more efficient organisation, but with a clearer understanding of our commitment to our members and a more dynamic structure.

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## How do we help our members?

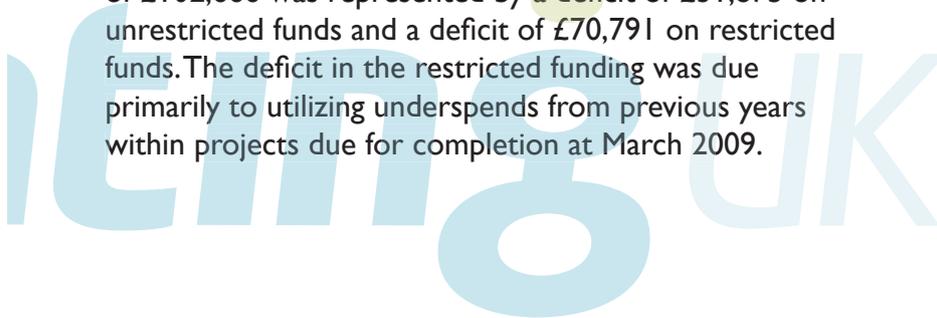
Parenting UK's membership is growing and we are working hard to ensure we reach all the right people. Our bi-monthly news bulletin has featured topics such as parenting contracts, outcomes for parents and young parents. We also offer members:

- a fortnightly eflyer, keeping them informed of the latest news stories from the parenting sector
- online opportunities of networking, discussions, debate about policy, job vacancies and further information channels
- a specialist parenting library
- our unique travelling exhibition of parenting educational materials
- events for our members and the sector in general, and continually strive to ensure we provide our members with the events they need.



## Financial Overview 2008-09

Parenting UK's income for the year was £1,200,027 and total expenditure was £1,302,693. The deficit for the year of £102,666 was represented by a deficit of £31,875 on unrestricted funds and a deficit of £70,791 on restricted funds. The deficit in the restricted funding was due primarily to utilizing underspends from previous years within projects due for completion at March 2009.



# Looking forward



## Report from Dame Jane Roberts, Chair

Parenting UK approaches the end of 2009 in an optimistic mood.

Over the last year, our Chief Executive, Pamela Park, appointed just over a year ago, and Parenting UK's trustees have thoroughly reviewed our purpose and our future. We now have a very clear direction of travel and a much more robust as well as leaner organisation. Despite the undoubted challenge of the economic climate, we are looking to the future with confidence.

Parenting UK is, after all, the only organisation in the sector that is rooted in its membership and that supports a growing network of people working directly with parents. We are in constant dialogue with our members: a two way exchange of information about what's going on up and down the country and the dissemination of the latest news about good practice.

With a general election next year, there is inevitably some political uncertainty at the moment but I believe that whatever the outcome of that election, the imperative of ensuring the highest possible quality of parenting services will be recognised. Support for parenting is just too important to be sidelined.

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

Dame Jane Roberts

We'd like to thank our trustees and funders for their guidance and support throughout the year.

### **Trustees:**

Dame Jane Roberts DBE (Chair)  
Hetty Einzig  
Simon Goodall CBE  
Paul Hodgkinson CBE  
Jane Klauber  
Dr Sebastian Kraemer  
Alison Loughlin

Annette Mountford MBE

John Sayce  
Professor Sarah Stewart-Brown

### **Principal funders:**

Department for Children, Schools  
and Families  
National Academy for Parenting  
Practitioners