



## CWDC welcomes parenting workforce

As you may know, the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) will be taking on the responsibility for support to those who work with parents from 1 April 2010. We are delighted to be given this opportunity to build on the work of the National Academy for Parenting Practitioners. I know you will agree that this area of work is hugely significant in creating better life opportunities for children and their families and we will now be able to strengthen the links between this work and training and development of the whole workforce. I believe that this work is very important and I want to put it at the heart of CWDC's work as we move forward.

We will continue to seek to influence Children's Trusts, with the aim of embedding parenting strategies in their work and, working closely with parenting commissioners, we will aim to make those strategies more effective and sustainable, with appropriate management and supervisory support locally available.

We will work with King's College to promote use of the commissioning toolkit; ensure that the third sector is engaged in evidence-based practice and work with other organisations to update the working with parents National Occupational Standards and to develop training and qualifications linked to the qualifications and training strategy of the children's workforce.

We will be making a very significant amount of training available: 2,000 places on training to deliver evidence-based parenting programmes; 600 places for staff in children's centres to access level 3 working with parents training; 5,000 places for workers engaged in outreach work from children's centres to

undertake training appropriate to their role. We are developing the detail of how applications will be made and the criteria for places and will publicise this as soon as possible.

The National Academy's work will be established as a new programme within CWDC. We will need to make ourselves known to workers who may not have previously had contact with CWDC and as part of that we will build and maintain web resources and make available messages which translate research into policy and practice. We will also attend and convene events where we can meet practitioners and managers.

The work programme, agreed with DCSF, is very much a continuation of work previously carried out by the Academy. It is also characterised by partnership working as is so much of our work, so we look forward to adding a whole range of new networks and working together so that you can influence our direction and activity in this work. 'Think Family' and 'Think Father' will remain key parts of our message.

I look forward to working with you and I hope that you will support us in delivering high-quality investment so that the workforce can make a real difference to the lives of children, young people and their families.

Jane Haywood

A handwritten signature of Jane Haywood in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Chief Executive, CWDC

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## Working with parents with learning disabilities

Written by Liz Watling, Service Manager Black Country, Royal Mencap Society

Parents with a learning disability are some of the most disadvantaged people in society. They encounter prejudice and discrimination every day, with people often making very negative assumptions about their parenting ability. Many are struggling to bring up their children in adverse circumstances with no support, and are at risk of having their children taken into care.

Walsall Parents' Service provides advocacy support to parents during child protection procedures and preventative work offering support in areas such as housing, access to health, etc. The service advocates for and represents parents – at meetings, assessments, child protection conferences and court hearings. The service also supports parents to become advocates for themselves and other parents. The project began as a three-year project in Walsall to support parents with a learning disability and has now developed a family mentoring service that runs alongside the advocacy service which is now in its fifth year.

We offer advocacy support around child protection and a self-advocacy support service. The service currently employs one advocate to represent and support parents during child protection proceedings. The advocate ensures that parents understand what is going on at meetings and in court, and that they are represented properly during proceedings. Staff have supported parents to develop their own support via a self-advocacy group that meets twice a month.

In addition to the advocacy service we offer family mentoring support. A more preventative approach offers families who are struggling to safeguard their children the essential support to understand and offer their children the support and care they need to reduce the professionals concerns.

The service offers a combination of parenting support and crisis intervention in cases where authorities have started child protection proceedings. It also helps parents whose children have been removed by the court to access on-going support. While the service recognises that it may not be appropriate for all parents with a learning disability to look after their own children, they know from experience that many can be very good parents if given the right support.

Where appropriate, the service wants to keep families

together, as evidence shows that in most cases this is best for the children and their parents. Because of the complex nature of child protection proceedings, mainstream advocacy groups can be reluctant to support parents with a learning disability. Parents with a learning disability in Walsall are currently offered no targeted support during child protection proceedings. This leaves them feeling vulnerable, scared and in fear of having their children removed.

The family mentoring support service is a more preventative approach and offers families who are struggling to safeguard their children the essential support to understand and offer their children the support and care they need. This involves working closely with other agencies in the area, such as Sure Start centres and social services. In the last year we have had three families who have had their child protection plans removed as they are now meeting all their children's needs. As long as they continue to engage with support agencies the children will remain in their care and there will be no children's services intervention.

The family mentoring service does a lot of partnership working with other professionals and groups, such as self-help groups. They provide advice and support and signpost parents to other agencies and professionals to ensure they receive support and guidance specific to their needs.

### Further resources:

'Good practice guidance on working with parents with a learning disability', Department of Health and Department for Education and Skills, June 2007

Accord – Working Together for Families in Suffolk  
This joint local protocol covers all parents with additional support needs and also contains practice guidance relating to parents with learning disabilities.  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk/CareAndHealth/ChildrenAndFamilies/ACCORD.htm](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CareAndHealth/ChildrenAndFamilies/ACCORD.htm)

Working Together with Parents Network  
The network aims to spread positive practice and to promote policy change, so that parents with learning disabilities and their children can get better support.  
[www.bris.ac.uk/norahfry/right-support/](http://www.bris.ac.uk/norahfry/right-support/)

## Walsall Parents' Service Case Study

We supported a family who were referred to us by social services a few years ago, the parents were reported to be neglecting the child and not keeping him safe.

There was little or no support offered to the parents and after a few visits from social services the child was removed under an emergency care order and placed with foster carers.

The referral was made to our service late on in the proceedings which meant the parents did not fully understand the child protection procedures they found themselves in and it was too late for them to try and address any issues highlighted by the professionals, eventually the child was adopted and the couple parted.

The mother then met a new partner and later became pregnant; social services were informed of the pregnancy and visited the family. They made a referral to our service which resulted in the mother receiving early support at meetings and we were able to explain the child protection procedure to her and help her to be more prepared for the possible outcome of the court proceedings. The parents had parenting assessments carried out during the pregnancy, and the mother attended parenting classes.

The assessments showed the mother did not have the required parenting skills to keep the baby safe and the baby was placed on the child protection register at birth and placed in the full time care of the paternal grandparents, with both parents having daily supervised contact. The couple have since parted, however the mother has supervised contact once a week with the child which she attends regularly. The mother's past played a large part in the decision to remove her child from her care.

## Sure Start Children's Centres

The National Audit Office (NAO) has published a report which finds that Sure Start Children's Centres are still struggling to reach the disadvantaged families they are meant to help. According to the report, despite extra funding, a "low level" of outreach work means parents and children in the poorest areas are not getting the services they need.

The NAO said that despite extra funding intended to help the centres reach out to the neediest parents and children, a "low level" of such work was taking place. The report found that in the most disadvantaged 30 per cent of communities, staff spent just 38 hours a week on outreach work.

[www.nao.org.uk/publications/0910/sure\\_start\\_childrens\\_centres.aspx](http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/0910/sure_start_childrens_centres.aspx)

## Government to extend Family Intervention Projects

The Government has announced a further 88 new Family Intervention Projects (FIPs) across the country and a further £2.6m of funding for local authorities to start or expand FIPs in their region.

The 88 new projects will fund an additional 200 key workers to help turn around the lives of over 1,200 families in need of support each year.

Children and Families Minister Dawn Primarolo said: "Family Intervention Projects challenge, confront and support parents and children to help them change their behaviour for the benefit of the whole family and wider community. Prevention is the best way to stop problems with families escalating and impacting their neighbours."

FIPs were launched four years ago in a bid to reduce anti-social behaviour and improve parenting skills. The Government is working towards the ambition for over 50,000 families experiencing the greatest problems to get additional support during the life of the next Parliament.

## More focus on dads at time of childbirth

Midwives will be given more guidance to ensure they are fully engaging with fathers around the birth of their child, according to plans announced in the Government's Green Paper on families and relationships. The Royal College of Midwives will produce the guidance for their members after the Government called for prenatal and antenatal services to become more inclusive of fathers. The Green Paper points to research that shows that when fathers are highly involved with their babies they are more likely to remain involved as their children grow up.

Government-funded materials to bring fathers up to speed on the importance of their role will now be put into men's hands on maternity wards – marking a significant change in public attitudes towards fatherhood, according to leading think-tank the Fatherhood Institute. For more than 50 years, in the struggle to do the best by Britain's babies, important information and advice has been provided to all new mothers via the NHS – but none targeted at dads.

Other measures to get fathers more involved with their child's development include a new Dad's Guide to be included in maternity Bounty packs. Rob Williams, Chief Executive of the Fatherhood Institute, said: "The inclusion of government-funded materials specifically aimed at dads is a huge breakthrough and reflects a major shift in public attitudes towards fatherhood in the last decade. Traditional gendered roles of mother as carer and father as breadwinner are dissolving; meaning a generation of families is developing where both mum and dad play an active role in childcare."

# Government Green Paper sets out more support for fathers and grandparents



The Government's Green Paper, published in January sets out how the Government can support all families, help to prevent and resolve marriage and relationship breakdown, support and recognise dads and grandparents, improve flexible working for families, and give more targeted support to families in need.

The paper, 'Support for All: the Families and Relationships Green Paper', states that services and policies need to help families to "sustain good relationships", with extra support for those families and children in greatest need. It also launches a major review into the family justice system to reduce conflict and promote earlier resolution of problems.

Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families Ed Balls said, "Families come in all shapes and sizes these days and the evidence is clear that stable and loving relationships between parents and with their children are vital for their progress and well-being. This was confirmed in the Families in Britain Evidence Paper. The Government is therefore strongly committed to supporting all parents, grandparents and carers in sustaining strong and resilient relationships."

**Fathers and grandparents** – The Government sets out plans to strengthen what families can expect from services at crucial stages; to support the engagement of fathers around the birth of their child and to introduce a guide for fathers in the free Bounty Packs given to new mothers. Children's centres will be encouraged to offer more of their services to fathers and also grandparents.

The Green Paper also recognises the important role of grandparents and proposes abolishing a legal obstacle to make it easier for them to gain access to their grandchildren when contact is denied after divorce and family breakdowns.

**Families with disabled children** – The paper recommends that families with disabled children often need more support and will extend the offer of key worker support for families with disabled children aged 0-19, and fund specialist relationship counselling services for these families.

**Teenagers** – Families with teenagers will also receive more support, with more guidance on a range of issues concerning teenagers delivered online. There will also be a focus on family and friends who look after children, in particular relatives looking after children because of parent's drug or alcohol misuse.

**Early years** – The paper sets out plans for a review of the Government's vision for maternity and early years support, to be published in spring 2010, which will set out in detail what help is available to families during this period, and how they intend to make families more aware of this. They want Sure Start Children's Centres to play a full role, working together with GPs, maternity teams, health visitors and other health professionals, in supporting children and families during this period.

**Training professionals** – The Government sets out the need to ensure that every professional who works with children knows how to build and sustain relationships with parents and other family members by exploring the principle of involving parents in training staff, and looking at more effective training for frontline staff on relationship support through programmes such as Brief Encounters. Professionals will also be trained on the skills involved in encouraging parents who are reluctant or feel unable to seek help.

**Getting help to families earlier** – The Government will consult on measures needed to be in place for assessments for family and parenting support whenever a family appears to need help. Guidance will be published in 2010 to support local authorities on the commissioning and delivery of effective parent and family support services, and include encouraging practitioners who deliver parenting and family support to consider signposting and referring to relationship support services.

Some of the policy proposals can be implemented straight away; others are for consultation or will take longer to put into place. To read a full copy of the Green Paper, visit [www.dcsf.gov.uk](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk)

## Green Paper Working Group

If you'd like to contribute to Parenting UK's response to the Green Paper consultation, email us at [workinggroups@parentinguk.org](mailto:workinggroups@parentinguk.org) with 'Green Paper' in the subject box.

## The Green Paper review

### Conservative Party draft manifesto

The Conservative Party has also launched the family section of its draft manifesto which outlines plans to make Britain more family friendly by: taking a new approach to early intervention; reforming the tax and benefits system to help families; and helping families to balance their lives. The party plans to give children the best chance in life by ensuring structures are in place, that is, strong and secure families, confident and able parents and an ethic of responsibility.

The draft manifesto sets out plans to provide 4,200 more Sure Start health visitors – ‘giving all parents a guaranteed level of support before and after birth until their child starts school’. They state that this extra help will support the relationships between parents and child, and between parents themselves. To read more on this visit: [www.conservatives.com/Policy/Where\\_we\\_stand/Family.aspx](http://www.conservatives.com/Policy/Where_we_stand/Family.aspx)

### Centre for Social Justice Green Paper

The conservative think tank, the Centre for Social Justice, has also published a green paper on the family. The report, which points to evidence of the negative impact that single parent households can have on children, suggests the creation of family fostering placements, which would provide intensive residential support to families with children “at immediate risk of entering care for preventable reasons”. The paper also suggests that Sure Start Children’s Centres should be absorbed into ‘Family Hubs’ which would focus on early years provision and an emphasis on outreach, and calls for substantive reform to reverse the decline in the number of health visitors.

Further information is available at: [www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/default.asp?pageRef=37](http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/default.asp?pageRef=37)

## Parentchannel.tv launched as part of Family Information Direct programme

Parentchannel.tv was officially launched on 26 January at the DCSF’s showcase event for the Family Information Direct services (previously known as Parent Know How). This new website is now up and running where you can see a collection of free short videos offering parenting advice, delivered by professionals and parents themselves, and links to other sources of help.

The videos are the perfect resource to signpost parents to and you can also add them to your own website through a simple process – there is further information about this on the website.

If you fancy getting involved yourself as an expert, or know some parents who might like to take part, get in touch with us through [www.parentchannel.tv](http://www.parentchannel.tv)

## School pupils aged 14 will have compulsory parenting lessons from 2011

Parenting UK welcomes the new parenting classes which would be part of the revised Personal Health and Social Education curriculum that includes teaching 14 year olds about parenting, body image and ‘moral dilemmas.’

They would receive sex and relationships education from age 5, starting with learning the names of body parts and about simple changes to their bodies. Between 7 and 9, they will be taught about puberty and “how to form and maintain relationships”. In the final two years of primary school, pupils will learn about human reproduction.

Children aged 11 to 14 would also cover sexual orientation, contraception, pregnancy, HIV and other sexually-transmitted diseases, homosexual relationships, civil ceremonies and the importance of marriage.

It is hoped the lessons about parenting would ensure pupils understood the responsibilities involved in raising a child, as well as the key aspects of positive parenting but critics have suggested that there is a fine line between encouraging youngsters to delay parenthood and educating them for it.

Parenting UK has previously been involved in the advisory group for the PSHE curriculum and welcomes this development. Further resources on parenting education for children and young people in schools can be found on our website: [www.parentinguk.org/3/schools-and-PSHE](http://www.parentinguk.org/3/schools-and-PSHE)

## Commissioning Toolkit of Parenting Programmes – one year old

The Commissioning Toolkit was officially launched just over a year ago. One year on and there are 139 parenting programmes on the database with 71 rated programmes.

The Commissioning Toolkit is a searchable online database of parenting programmes and approaches available in England. It is aimed at commissioners and provides detailed information about each programme’s aims, content, target groups and training requirements. Most importantly, it also provides information about their quality and effectiveness, enabling commissioners to make informed choices about how suitable a programme is for meeting the needs of a specific group.

The Toolkit is used by practitioners, commissioners, programme developers and researchers. Following its success, the Toolkit and evaluation of parenting programmes will transfer to King’s College London as part of the research programme after the National Academy for Parenting Practitioners closes. You can find the toolkit on [www.commissioningtoolkit.org](http://www.commissioningtoolkit.org)



**“parents and the home environment they create are the single most important factor in shaping their children’s well-being, achievements and prospects”**

**Every Parent Matters, 2007**

The role of a single commissioner for parenting in local authorities was introduced in 2006, to champion and commission parenting support, co-ordinate work on parenting support across different agencies and ensure that the appropriate services were put in place. A review in 2008/09 of the local authorities taking part in the Parenting

Implementation Project gave an overview of the parenting commissioner role. The review found that while the role and responsibility of parenting commissioners vary, the creation of the role has changed the landscape of parenting work. Here is just one example of the work of a parenting commissioner and the creation of their parenting strategy.

# Staffordshire's approach to championing the role of parenting commissioner

Written by Charlotte Bailey, Commissioner for Parents, Staffordshire

My name is Charlotte Bailey and I am a central ambassador and champion for parents in Staffordshire. My official title is Commissioner for Parents but that does not really capture what I do day in and day out, so let me tell you about it!

The Children's Trust Staffordshire pooled funding to appoint me because as a partnership of services with the common goal of improving outcomes for children and young people, they knew that working with parents was simply common sense. My official job description as the Trust would describe it goes something like this:

- to develop and implement a Children's Trust Parenting and Family Strategy
- to represent the views of parents, ensuring their voice is heard and acted on
- to ensure that Staffordshire has the right services for parents delivered in the right ways
- to develop parental engagement and participation.

When I came into post in November 2008, I decided to refresh the current Parenting and Family Strategy, like the Children's Trust partners I wanted to make sure that our local strategy was actually written by the parents themselves. I guess I could have started with a task group, a meeting or even a strategy development workshop – but I didn't, instead we started by listening to our parents, what they thought of our services, what they needed from our services and how they thought our services should be delivered.

Our thinking as a Children's Trust was that if parents are the "single most important factor in shaping their children's well-being, achievements and prospects" (Every Parent Matters, 2007) then we need to ask them what they want and need and we should not be deciding this for them. So we listened and we listened and listened some more ... and nearly 2,000 parents came forward with their views – mums, dads, grandparents, foster carers, kinship carers, step-parents, parents with big families, parents with small families, parents from different cultural backgrounds, teenage parents, single parents, same-sex parents, parents who had never spoken up before.

We invested time, energy and funding into listening to parents and used creative and fun ways to engage them – including a bus tour round the county!

I wanted also to take stock of what we were doing (or weren't doing), what services and staff we had and take a good old look at what the outcome data for families (both for parents and their children) was telling us. I undertook a parenting service audit provision, compiled family data profiles and did

a staff skills scan (if you are really interested in this you can find more information at <http://www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/commissionerparents/>).

We now have five clear priorities for parents and families in Staffordshire, we are convinced they are the right ones and that by the Children's Trust working together to deliver the strategy we can make a real difference to parents and the outcomes for their children.

We have launched our Children's Trust Parenting Strategy with Councillors, senior managers, staff and parents through events totalling attendance of over 500 people. The Children's Trust board have signed a pledge endorsing their commitment to Staffordshire parents to deliver the strategy. Over 300 staff have also signed an individual pledge to play their role in taking the strategy forward through the work they do.

My job is to now make sure that the Parent and Family Strategy isn't just a piece of paper and that we make it become a reality. I have been working on our structures so that we can monitor the difference we make and have set in place methods by which the parents' voice is regularly heard and embedded into the work of the Children's Trust.

We have also been developing a parental engagement toolkit, district parenting forums and we continuously make sure we are involving, training and supporting our parents and parenting practitioners to help us. Keeping updated nationally is essential and subscribing to Parenting UK has helped us keep abreast of national developments making sure the work we do is guided by research, evidence and policy.

I am a member of our Children's Trust Board and am in a great position to help, support and even challenge partners to maintain this focus on parents and our priorities in the strategy, not that they need much persuading – they know that their work with parents is a priority to achieving long-lasting positive outcomes for children.

For more information about the Commissioner for Parents in Staffordshire or to read Charlotte's monthly blogs visit <http://www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/commissionerparents/>

## Parenting Support – building blocks for a strong workforce

24 March, London (venue tbc)

New Event

**Don't miss your chance to be among the first to find out CWDC's plans for supporting working with parents**

- **Keynote address by Jane Haywood, Chief Executive CWDC:**  
Introducing the CWDC programme to support work with parents
- **Functional mapping of the parenting workforce, Bekah Little, NAPP**
- **Overview of the principles for working with parents, Sue Owen, Director of Well-being, NCB**

This event is essential for all those working in the parenting sector wanting to help shape the future of workforce development, don't miss out, sign up now! For more information and to register for the event, go to [www.parentinguk.org/3/our-events](http://www.parentinguk.org/3/our-events)

Cost: £70 (£49 for members), includes morning refreshments, lunch, tea and coffee

## The Future of Parenting Strategies: What works in supporting vulnerable families?

**A joint conference by Parenting UK and Care Matters: 2 March 2010, London, venue tbc**

Almost every day we hear stories in the media about the causes of family breakdown – poverty, divorce, absent fathers, domestic violence, parents in prison, drug and alcohol misuse and mental health problems. These problems affect the whole family and can cause lasting damage to the children and family relationships. Tackling the difficulties faced by parents and children in vulnerable families needs to be a multi-agency approach, helping both the parent and child as part of the solution. On the whole, most parents are doing a

Care matters PARTNERSHIP parentingUK

good job, but there are times when they may need that extra bit of support and advice, and there are times when a family needs to be helped out of a potentially critical situation, such as when facing eviction, court orders, or anti-social behaviour.

In response to the work being done around the country to support vulnerable families, this unique one day conference will focus on developing strategy, engagement with parents and families and best practice examples from across England. Through a series of speeches and workshops delivered by key members of the parenting workforce, delegates will be given the opportunity to explore the impact of parenting strategies and how parenting practitioners are working to support vulnerable families.

To book your place, visit [www.carematterspartnership.co.uk](http://www.carematterspartnership.co.uk)  
Parenting UK members' special price: £285 (+VAT)



# Resources

## Online and resources

### Exploring communication development: A resource for working with parents

New resource pack for practitioners from 'I Can': The pack can be used to run two days of sessions for parents on how to support their child's speech, language and communication. It includes a brochure and CD with PowerPoint presentation, a copy each of the 'Ready, steady, talk. activity book and 'Chatter matters' DVD resources, and a 'Stages of speech' development poster. For more information go to: [www.ican.org.uk](http://www.ican.org.uk)

### New teen pregnancy resource from BBC Learning FREE for Schools and Youth Workers

'Underage and Pregnant' is a resource aimed at teachers, youth workers, care workers and any professional working with young people across the UK.

BBC Learning has compiled two BBC resource packs. The first pack includes lesson plans for teachers to support PSHE/ PSE curriculum Key Stages 3 & 4 and the second includes workshops and is for youth workers to support advice work with young people on sexual health, contraception and pregnancy. The pack includes a one hour DVD which includes sections on: social life, aspirations and self-esteem in relationships and bringing up baby. To order your free copy go to:

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/teachers/underageandpregnant/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/teachers/underageandpregnant/)

### New online Child Maintenance Options Service

A new online service has been launched by the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission to help parents find out about child maintenance options and making the arrangements best suited to their circumstances. The website includes useful resources such as an online maintenance calculator, private agreement form and a benefits table. [www.cmoptions.org](http://www.cmoptions.org)

### New online guide from the Children's Society for children whose parents are separating

The Children's Society has launched an online guide to help children of all ages cope with the separation of their parents. Includes video resources and useful links. To access the guide go to: [www.childrensociety.org.uk/kids\\_zone/your\\_issues/parents\\_breaking\\_up/18926.html](http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/kids_zone/your_issues/parents_breaking_up/18926.html)

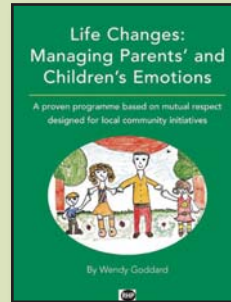
### New 'Relate for Parents' website launched

The new Relate for Parents website is full of ideas, guidance and interesting information to make a difference and stimulate the way people think about relationships. You can visualise your family dynamics in a fun way with the unique and innovative Family Mapping, or you can talk directly with one of Relate's practitioners via Live Chat or text message services. [www.relateforparents.org.uk](http://www.relateforparents.org.uk)

### Parenteen – new magazine by young parents, for young parents

Download the new magazine for teenage parents, by young parents themselves. Go to: <http://www.foryoungpeople.co.uk/home-page/young-parents/>

## Books



### Life changes: managing parents' and children's emotions: A proven programme based on mutual respect designed for local community initiatives By Wendy Goddard

This course's easy-to-follow sessions let facilitators take parents, carers, grandparents, foster-carers and parents-to-be, through a variety of exercises to: understand their anger

and depression; become more able to cope with changes and become more confident, resilient and positive about life.

Russell House, July 2009

ISBN: 978-1-905541-50-8

Price: £44.95



### Teenage Parenthood: What's the Problem? Ed. Simon Duncan, Rosalind Edwards and Claire Alexander

*Teenage Parenthood: What's the Problem* presents recent research on teenage parenthood. It includes the relationship between age, pre-existing disadvantage and social outcomes for mothers and their children; the gulf between government policy assumptions and the

understandings of teenage parents and their families.

Tufnell Press, published 16 February 2010

ISBN: 978-1-872767-08-6

Price: £12.95



### Helping Children with Troubled Parents – A Guidebook By Margot Sunderland and

This book is designed to enable practitioners to help children whose emotional wellbeing is being adversely affected by troubled parents. These are children who live with the burden of having to navigate their parent's troubled emotional states.

Speechmark, published 14 March 2010

ISBN: 9780863888007

Price: £24.99

## Busymummy

[www.busymummy.co.uk](http://www.busymummy.co.uk)  
[alexia@busymummy.co.uk](mailto:alexia@busymummy.co.uk)

### Running A Young Parent Group

This course will provide information for any young parent professional who has been asked to deliver groups but has no prior experience. This day includes information on group facilitation, group coaching, maintaining pace, building group rapport, and ideas for activities.

21 April 2010, Coventry  
 6 July 2010, Oldham

### Improving Self-Esteem in Young Parents

Low self esteem can be a real barrier to engagement. This workshop will provide professionals with a toolkit of activities, 1:1 exercises and group sessions to improve self-esteem in young parents.

5 March 2010, Cumbria

### Understanding Maternity Benefits

There are so many different benefits and eligibility criterias for young parents that it can be very confusing for professionals. This workshop will provide a succinct explanation of what is available, what are the eligibility criteria and how to apply. It will also provide information of other possible sources of benefits that you may not be aware of.

13 April 2010, Hereford

### Ready to Engage / Preparing for College

This three-day training course provides professionals with all the tools required to enable them to deliver the accredited training 16-week training programme which supports young parents to engage with education, employment and training. Included in the training is demonstration of materials, ideas for delivery, a full resource pack including lesson plans and accreditation processes.

10–12 March 2010, Reading

## Anna Freud Centre

[www.annafreudcentre.org](http://www.annafreudcentre.org)

### Using Groups to Strengthen Parent-Infant Relationships: "Claiming the Baby" in the Group.

In recent years there has been enthusiasm amongst professionals to offer parent and infant groups for help with early emotional and attachment

difficulties. In practice, leadership of these groups requires understanding of group processes and training in skills to engage infants equally as participants.

This two-day workshop aims to develop group thinking and practice to produce leaders able to sustain successful parent and infant groups. There will be a focus upon ways of creating a group environment which maximises the potential for infant-centred interactions. The teaching will draw upon models from parent-infant psychotherapy and group analysis. These will be adapted in relation to techniques and professional roles in different group settings.

19 and 20 March 2010

## NCB

[www.ncb.org.uk/resources/training](http://www.ncb.org.uk/resources/training)

### Mummy's Black, Daddy's Yellow & I'm Orange: talking with young children about racial identity

This one-day course aims to give practitioners confidence and the tools for talking with young children about racial identity. As mixed-heritage children become the fastest growing ethnic minority group, practitioners need the skills to recognise and work with the early judgements that children make about others. For more details or to book your place, please visit

<http://mb2.eventbrite.com/>  
 24 February, London

### PEAL training for practitioners

PEAL training supports all early years settings to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and Children's Centre Practice Guidance to work in partnership with parents. Participants can seek accreditation, at level 3, through City & Guilds. For more details or to book your place, please visit

<http://pealpt5.eventbrite.com/>  
 9 March, Nottinghamshire

### Listening as a Way of Life – An Introduction

Aimed at practitioners working with birth to fives, this course explores the different 'languages' through which children communicate. Delegates will learn ways to help children to express themselves and plan how to involve them in the design, development and delivery of early years services. For more details or to book your place,

please visit <http://lycs5.eventbrite.com/>  
 10 March, Bristol

## UK Youth

[www.ukyouth.org](http://www.ukyouth.org)

### Working with Boys and Young Men

This training course provides all the information needed for participants to deliver a one-day training course for those who work with young people on the theme of 'working with boys and young men'.

8 March 2010, Birmingham

## Children in Wales

[www.childreninwales.org.uk](http://www.childreninwales.org.uk)

### Creative working with children and families (Facilitated by Fatherskills)

This intensive one-day training course introduces participants to the ethos of using creativity in their work with children and families. Practitioners are offered a toolbox which they can use to develop new ways of building trust, communicating, co-operating and working together, overcoming some of the barriers related to literacy and learning and addressing issues around low self-esteem.

4 March 2010, Old Colwyn

## Mellow Parenting

[www.mellowparenting.org](http://www.mellowparenting.org)  
[info@mellowparenting.org](mailto:info@mellowparenting.org)

The three day training course in Mellow Parenting is run for up to 12 and aims to give participants a taste of working with a group as well as familiarity with the materials and methods of Mellow Parenting. Participants are provided with the programme, coding manuals, an evaluation pack, training DVD and access to online support.

8, 9 and 10 March, Glasgow  
 21, 22, and 23 April 2010, London

Entries are provided by individuals/ organisations offering the training. Inclusion here does not imply endorsement by Parenting UK. For more training courses visit [www.parentinguk.org/2/training](http://www.parentinguk.org/2/training)

## Ford Britain Trust

The Ford Trust supports a wide range of charitable activities, but focusing particularly on projects relating to education, environment, children, the disabled, youth activities and projects that provide clear benefits to the local communities close to Ford UK locations. Small grants for amounts up to £250 are available four times a year. Large grants for amounts over £250, and usually up to a maximum of £3000, are considered by the trustees twice a year.

Next deadline for small grants is 2 March 2010  
Next deadline for large grants is 4 May 2010  
[www.ford.co.uk/AboutFord/CorporateSocialResponsibility/FordBritainTrust](http://www.ford.co.uk/AboutFord/CorporateSocialResponsibility/FordBritainTrust)

## John Laing Charitable Trust

The John Laing Charitable Trust supports charities which support the following activities:

- Education
- Community Regeneration
- Disadvantaged young people
- Homelessness( with a particular emphasis on day centres)
- Environment

Grants of between £250 and £25,000 are available with up to 12 charities receiving more than £10,000. Usually, charities receive one-off donations, but a small number are supported for an agreed period, often up to three years.

[www.laing.com/top/corporate\\_responsibility/john\\_laing\\_charitable\\_trust/charitable\\_donations.html](http://www.laing.com/top/corporate_responsibility/john_laing_charitable_trust/charitable_donations.html)

## The Archer Trust

The Trust helps small UK charities which support needy or deserving people, for example people with physical or mental disabilities or the disadvantaged, and operating in areas of high unemployment. Grants are between £250 and £3000.  
[www.archertrust.org.uk/](http://www.archertrust.org.uk/)

## Children in Need grant programme

BBC Children in Need is offering small grants of up to £10,000 a year for three years for third sector organisations working with children and young people. Grants will be allocated in several rounds, with application deadlines on 15 April, 15 July and 15 October 2010.

Further information is available at:  
[www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/smallgrants.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/smallgrants.shtml)

## Bodfach Trust

The Bodfach Trust makes grants to organisations that are involved in a range of activities, including help for young people throughout the UK. Although applications are open to organisations throughout the UK, preference is given to organisations operating in Wales.

[www.bodfachtrust.org.uk](http://www.bodfachtrust.org.uk)

## Can you deliver high-quality training to children's centre outreach practitioners?



Children's Workforce Development Council has developed a training course for practitioners engaged in children's centre outreach services.

We want to support outreach practitioners by providing access to high quality training. This is an opportunity to tender to deliver CWDC's training course to outreach practitioners in England.

We welcome applications from training providers who want to help practitioners build on and develop their skills and capacity, so they can better meet the needs of different families and communities.

**Closing date for tender:** 1 March 2010, 1pm (Tender reference: VC0904/003/TB)

Applications should be returned to: Tenders, Children's Workforce Development Council 2nd Floor, City Exchange, 11 Albion Street, LEEDS LS1 5ES For more information, please visit: [www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/tenders](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/tenders)  
Please send any questions to: [tenders@cwdcouncil.org.uk](mailto:tenders@cwdcouncil.org.uk) and write the tender reference in the email subject line.

## February

### Changing Parenting Culture

Economic and Social Research Council  
16 February 2010, London  
H.Reece@lse.ac.uk

### 4Children Annual Policy Conference

4 Children  
22–23 February 2010, London  
www.4children.org.uk/events

### Working Together to Safeguard Children: Implementing Lord Laming's Recommendations

Inside Government  
24 February 2010, London  
www.insidegovernment.co.uk/children/child\_protection/

### Family Futures Conferences

Guardian Professional  
24 February 2010, London  
www.guardian.co.uk/childrens-services

## March



### The future of parenting strategies – what works in supporting vulnerable families?

Care Matters Partnership and Parenting UK  
2 March 2010, London  
www.parentinguk.org/3/our-events

### Children England National Conference

Children England  
9 March 2010, Leeds  
www.childrenengland.org.uk

### Supporting Young Fathers

Young People in Focus  
11 March 2010, York/25 March 2010, London  
www.youngpeopleinfocus.org.uk/courses/conferences/

### Early Years – Engagement, Intervention and Development

Holyrood  
16 March 2010, Edinburgh  
http://earlyyears.holyrood.com/

### Black Sheep, Snow White and Hot Cross Buns: exploring equality and diversity in early years services

Early Childhood Forum  
16 March 2010, London  
http://ecf10.eventbrite.com/

### National Autistic Society's Professional Conference: Addressing the challenges together

National Autistic Society  
16 March 2010, Manchester  
www.event-space.com/actmarch2010/overview.asp



### Parenting Support – building blocks for a strong workforce

Parenting UK  
24 March 2010, London  
www.parentinguk.org/3/our-events

### Developing the Childcare Workforce

Neil Stewart Associates  
30 March 2010, London  
www.neilstewartassociates.com/kd179/

## April

### Let's Talk Adoption

After Adoption  
20 April, Cardiff  
www.afteradoption.org.uk

## June

### Pregnancy and Pregnancy Planning in the New Parenting Culture

Parenting Culture Studies  
22–23 June 2010, University of Kent  
www.parentingculturestudies.org/seminar-series/seminar5/index.html

## Are you recruiting?

Why not advertise your vacancy on our website where you can reach the best person for the job. Parenting UK members get a discount on advertising fees.

To advertise on the website, email your job to [info@parentinguk.org](mailto:info@parentinguk.org)

Only £50 (excl.VAT) for two weeks

We welcome your comments on and contributions to our News Bulletin. Please address any correspondence to [rtonkin@parentinguk.org](mailto:rtonkin@parentinguk.org)

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phone 020 7284 8370 fax 020 7485 3587

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