

## Parent Champions Conference and Awards 2022

### Welcome

Thank you for attending the Parent Champions Conference and Awards 2022. We are excited to have this opportunity to bring your Parent Champions schemes together to reflect on the past year, learn from one another and celebrate your amazing achievements.

### Programme

#### Day 1: Tuesday 24th May

- 10.00am Welcome from Coram Family and Childcare
- 10.15am Start for Life, Department of Health and Social Care
- 10.35am Parent Champions Leicester, Scheme of the Year 2021
- 10.55am Comfort Break
- 11.00am Workshop 1 | Working with refugee families – Parent Champions Camden  
Workshop 2 | Working with families with SEND and the local offer – Reading Local Authority  
Workshop 3 | Impact of Covid-19 on Childcare – Ivana La Valle
- 12.00pm Lunch and virtual networking
- 12.45pm Workshop 4 | Engaging with young dads – Laura Way, Grimsby Dads Collective  
Workshop 5 | Tips on setting up your Parent Champions scheme – Parent Champions Wandsworth  
Workshop 6 | Campaigning skills for parents – Coram Family and Childcare
- 1.45pm Close

#### Day 2: Wednesday 25th May

- 10.30am An update on the Parent Champions National Network
- 10.40am Parent Champions Nottingham, Top Tips on Volunteer Recruitment
- 11.10am Presentation of the Parent Champions Awards 2022
- 12.00pm Close



### **Coram Family and Childcare**

Many parents in the UK today are frozen out of work by the cost of childcare and disadvantaged children fall behind their peers before they even start school. Coram Family and Childcare works to change this and to make the UK a better place for families.

We focus on childcare and the early years to make a difference to families' lives now and in the long term. We work to make sure that every child has access to high quality childcare and every parent is better off working once they have paid for childcare. Families who face disadvantage, social exclusion and poverty are at the heart of our work.

<https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/>

### **Parent Champions National Network**

Parent Champions are parent volunteers who give a few hours a week to talk to other parents about the local services available to families. Coram Family and Childcare developed the Parent Champions programme in 2007 to help parents who miss out on vital information about how to access local family services.

The Parent Champions model is delivered by parents for parents, with the support of a local authority, children's centre, school or local community organisation.

The Parent Champions conference and awards is free to members of the Parent Champions National Network. The annual membership also includes many other benefits such as tailored support for your scheme, training, resources, workshops, a monthly newsletter and networking opportunities.

Join the network - <https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/parent-champions-membership-sales-page>

Renew your membership - <https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/parent-champions-membership-sales-page>

### **National Association of Family Information Services (NAFIS)**

NAFIS is a national membership organisation supporting local authorities to deliver high quality information and advice to families. It provides a focal point for lobbying government and access to key decision makers. NAFIS works to share best practice between local areas and share learning and expertise with policy makers. To find out more and to become a member, take a look at our website.

Join NAFIS - <https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/nafis>



## Parent Champions Awards

We would like to thank all of you who took the time to nominate volunteers, coordinators and schemes. The awards were independently judged by trustees of Coram Family and Childcare.

### **Scheme of the year**

This award recognises the scheme that has had some great achievements in the last year and has met the needs of their local communities. The scheme can demonstrate effective change within their community by reaching isolated communities and/or exceeding their targets.

The nominees for Parent Champions Scheme of the year are:

Parent Champions Wandsworth Early Years

Parent Champions Nottingham

### **Coordinator of the year**

This award recognises the Parent Champions coordinator who has demonstrated outstanding levels of dedication, creativity, and boldness in bringing communities together and worked hard to support and encourage their Parent Champions in their roles as a volunteer as well as in their personal development.

The nominees for Parent Champions Coordinator of the year are:

Carol Bennett, Wandsworth Early Years

Katie Watts & Stephanie Brannigan, Nottingham

### **Volunteer of the Year: Biggest Personal Development**

This award recognises the Parent Champions volunteer who has made significant positive development to impact their own life. The volunteer may have an inspiring personal journey, for example, have overcome personal challenges through their Parent Champions volunteering, have built their confidence and developed new skills or used their volunteering to progress into education or employment.

The nominees for Parent Champions Volunteer of the year – biggest personal development are:

Ruby Wilkes, Wandsworth Early Years

Susie Little, Caerphilly

Amanda Evans, Caerphilly

Charlotte Loveridge, Caerphilly

Ciara Audley, Leicester

### **Volunteers of the Year: Best Newcomer**

To recognise the new Parent Champions volunteer who has made significant progress or impact since joining the scheme. The volunteer may have hit the ground running, making a valuable contribution to the scheme or impact on their own life through volunteering within a short time.

The nominees for Parent Champions Volunteer of the year – best newcomer are:

Rachel Haines, Caerphilly

Farah Hussain, Leicester

Debbie Potter, Warwickshire



### **Volunteer of the Year: Biggest Impact**

This award recognises the Parent Champions volunteer who has demonstrated outstanding levels of dedication, enthusiasm and team work. The volunteer may have been particularly successful in some aspects within their scheme, for example have found new ways to reach isolated parents, become a mentor or trainer for new volunteers or have done local advocacy work.

The nominees for Parent Champions Volunteer of the year – biggest impact are:

Natasha Jacobs, Wandsworth Early Years

Habiba Sekandar and Rizwana Tabassum, Camden

Sharon Harris, Caerphilly

Joanna Yates, Caerphilly

Jenna White, Caerphilly

Sarah Jane Griffiths, Caerphilly

Gisela O'Neill, Hillingdon

Maria Beuca, Hillingdon

Libby Rockson, Southwark

Vicky Spatoula, Southwark

Shahana Begum, with additional mention of Zinèbe Maach & Marie McLeod, Tower Hamlets

## **Thank you**

To our trustees for taking the time to read through all the award nominations and doing the very difficult job of picking the winners

To Dr Carol Homden for presenting the awards

To all the workshop leaders and speakers

To the National Lottery Community Fund, the Esme Fairbairn Foundation and Trust for London for their support of the Parent Champions programme this year

And more importantly, to all the volunteers, coordinators and every member of the team who makes the Parent Champions National Network possible.