NAFIS Awards 2023

Information pack and nomination form

**Background**

The NAFIS Awards are an annual ceremony designed to recognise the excellent work of Family Information Services around the country and to celebrate their remarkable contributions to local communities.

The event has taken place since November 2020, when the first online NAFIS conference was first held. 2023 will mark the fourth awards ceremony.

**Why should you nominate your FIS?**

NAFIS Awards give FISs the opportunity to spread the word about their hard work and provides a national platform to both share and celebrate achievements. The awards are judged by Parent Champion volunteers and Trustees.

Previous award winners have told us that winning the NAFIS award has led to greater recognition of the FIS at local and national level. They have told us that the NAFIS awards are valued and recognised by the wider local authority and community. It gives FIS staff the opportunity to report back on success and share best practice.

This year, each winner will receive an awards certificate to display in the FIS and a dedicated press release. Coram Family and Childcare will also provide social media infographics to share on different social channels.

**NAFIS Awards 2023**

During the second day of the NAFIS Conference on 15 November, we will be presenting awards to FIS who have shown excellent practice over the last year. Nominations open on **Friday 22 September** and close on **Friday 20 October.**

These awards will recognise the work that FIS do to meet local need and help to share best practice between different areas.

**The categories**

We are asking NAFIS members and conference attendees to nominate FISs that they think are particularly impressive in the following categories:

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| **Most Innovative FIS** | This award celebrates new FIS initiatives and projects. Nominations could include:   * How FISs have worked in dialogue with the development of Family Hubs * The delivery and promotion of the Holiday Activities Fund (HAF) during school holidays * Ways that the FIS has partnered with other services to work holistically * Engagement with the local community |
| **Best Local Offer** | This award celebrates the innovative work behind setting up a successful Local Offer which meets the needs of families. Nominations could include:   * How parents, carers and young people coproduced the Local Offer * Ways that the Local Offer is easy to navigate online * Ways that the Local Offer is promoted, including with other services * How the Local Offer is integrated with other teams and services |
| **Best Directory** | This category recognises the important work that goes into providing an accessible, welcoming, and user-friendly FIS directory. Nominations could include:   * How parents, carers and young people have been involved in the design of the directory * Ways that the directory is easy to navigate online * Ways that the directory is promoted, including with other services * How is easy it is for parents to find out about the childcare available in their area * How well the directory provides information about free early education and other help to pay for childcare |
| **Best Promotion of Two-Year-Old Funding** | This award recognises FIS teams who have worked to spread the word about the two-year-old offer and engage with families to support them to access these services. Nominations could include:   * How the FIS reaches families face to face or with printed materials * How the FIS reaches families online * How the FIS understands and addresses the local barriers to using the free early education entitlement * How the FIS reaches the families who are least likely to take up early education * Innovative approaches used to promote the free early education entitlement |
| **Best Use of Social Media** | This category celebrates FISs who have gone above and beyond to connect with families through social media. Nominations could include:   * How the FIS has used different social media platforms to connect with families * How the FIS has created original digital content * How the FIS has boosted their audience and reach on social media channels |

**How to nominate**

You can nominate either your own FIS or another FIS you know who is doing an excellent job. Please note you can make multiple nominations and you can nominate an FIS for multiple categories.

To nominate, please complete the form on page 4 and email it to [info@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk](mailto:info@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk), along with any other supporting documents, by 5pm on **Friday 20 October.** If you have any questions, please feel free to submit any queries to this address.

The nominations will be judged by Parent Champion volunteers and the results will be presented on 15 November. Good luck!

**NAFIS Awards 2023 Nomination Form**

(Please note you can also provide up to 2 extra documents to support your nomination. Please send this form and any supporting docs to [info@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk](mailto:info@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk) by the deadline of Friday 20 October.

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| Your name: |  |
| Your local authority: |  |
| Your email address: |  |
| Category |  |
| The FIS you are nominating: |  |
| The contact name of the FIS you are nominating (if different) |  |
| Please outline the reasons why you are nominating this FIS for this award  (max 500 words) |  |
| Please provide practical examples of their excellent practice in this area    (max 500 words) |  |
| Please provide URL links to examples of this work here. | 1. www. 2. www. |
| Any other supporting evidence or information  (max 200 words) |  |