

## **Hello and welcome to the parent carer participation newsletter**

Here at the NNPCF and Contact we want to wish you a warm welcome back after the summer. In this edition we're including news on the national participation conference, 10% off at the Fledglings shop, free workshops for parent carers, news from the NNPCF, a message from our partners at KIDS, an update on the Department for Education (DfE) grant for forums and more.

### **National participation conference**

We are really pleased to confirm that there will be a one-day face-to-face joint conference in 2022/23 which will be going ahead late in February 2023.

We hope to offer two in person places per forum, but additionally, and building on the success of the virtual conferences during the pandemic, we are aiming to offer hybrid (live-virtual) attendance to enable a much wider reach.

Based on the NNPCF poll re preferred locations, this year's conference will be held in Bristol, and we will release full details of the date and venue as soon as contracts are signed.

In addition to the face-to-face conference, we will be offering a series of online learning workshops and NNPCF AGM which would typically have been included on day one of a two-day in person conference – we will confirm dates for these as soon as we can.

### **NNPCF news**

The NNPCF website has been updated with news on:

[Representing your views: NNPCF work to share the parent carer perspective](#)

[National research to develop policy and practice recommendations on resetting services to disabled children](#)

[NNPCF response to the call for 100% school attendance in September](#)

## Stockton Parent Carer Forum

Stockton Parent Carer Forum has recruited 12 new parent carer representatives and seen an average increase of 25 new members each month alongside their increased capacity for working with services and enhancing their offer. To read more about their progress check out the [success stories](#) page of our website.

### Fledglings 10% off

There's 10% off school wear at [Fledglings](#). You can also get 10% off most items if you sign up to [fledglings emails](#), although please note it won't work on items that are already discounted. Please do share with your members and contacts.

### Free early years workshops for Parent Carers

Contact has a range of workshops for parents of children aged 0-5, covering topics such as sleep, speech and language, and early years entitlements. To see the full list of topics, dates, and times see the [early years workshop](#) page of the website.

## Connecting Parent Carer Forums with Young People's Groups (YPGs)

KIDS are part of the Participation, Information, and Advice consortium; which is funded by the Department for Education. Although the primary focus of KIDS work is the development of children and young people's participation operationally and strategically; they recognise the benefits of collaboration with parents and carers to do the following:

1. Learn from PCF experiences
2. Capture and share good practice
3. Coproduce a proforma to share information between PCF's and YPGs.

We are collecting examples of good practice from across all NNPCF member forums who are working together with young people, please email us [takepart@kids.org.uk](mailto:takepart@kids.org.uk) if you have anything you feel happy to share or click [Making participation work - KIDS](#) to read more about this innovative work.

## Update on the DfE grant for parent carer forums

### 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche

If your forum's 2021/22 monitoring and 2022/23 grant application have both been approved, the grants team will have let your forum know that they are eligible to apply for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of the grant. The link to the second tranche application is below. This needs to be completed by the person (with the same email address)

who signed the conditions of grant on your forum's 2022/23 grant application. The deadline for claiming the remainder of your forum's grant is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November.

[Apply for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of your grant](#)

## **Priority grant**

If your forum has an additional urgent project/workstream in mind that isn't covered by the main grant of £17,500, the forum can apply for a priority grant. To apply, your forum will need to have their 2021/22 monitoring signed off and have applied for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of the 2022/23 grant.

Please run any ideas for the priority grant by your adviser so they can give you some guidance on whether or not it will be approvable.

The deadline for priority grant applications is Monday 21st November.

[Apply for a priority grant here](#)

If your forum is unable to do any of the above because your 2021/22 grant monitoring has not been approved, check-in with the grants team at [pcfgrants@contact.org.uk](mailto:pcfgrants@contact.org.uk) and they can update you on the progress of your forum's grant monitoring.

## **Reminder re CIC**

A reminder was recently emailed to all forums about the offer from CIC and how to access their wellbeing support services which are available to 8 members per forum as part of Contact's core offer to PCFs – please check your inboxes for this email that was sent on 6<sup>th</sup> September. We also send round details of some of their monthly wellbeing webinars that we think forums would find useful. If you register with CIC, you will receive their emails directly.

[Sign up for the parent carer participation joint newsletter.](#)