



Deaf Parenting UK



Deaf Parenting Newsletter

June 2007

Spring/Summer Issue 3

WELCOME!



Hello again and welcome to the **Spring / Summer edition** of the newsletter produced by **Deaf Parenting UK**.

With the daylight drawing longer and the summer weather blossoming, why not curl up with a copy of the 3rd issue DPUK Newsletter.

I hope you find this issue as enjoyable as the last one...And don't forget, we would love to hear from you, if you have a story to tell or tips to share, get in touch!

We will be back again in the Autumn, so until then happy reading and be safe!

Nicole Campbell
DPUK Coordinator

DPUK & Parentline Plus Training Opportunity...

Following Parentline Plus & DPUK Training opportunity, 9 applicants have attended 6 training days to become qualified Deaf Parenting Skills Course Trainers.

DPUK sought applications from all over the UK to reflect the diversity of the deaf families we serve in delivering Deaf Parenting Skills Courses.

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This new development offers an opportunity for deaf parents to become qualified pool of Deaf Parenting Skills Course Trainers and run Parenting Skills Courses for DPUK.

This was a pilot project, run in partnership with Parentline Plus, a new and exciting venture! Training took place over 6 days and in addition to completion of Parent Together training portfolios in line with OCN, the newly recruited trainers will deliver Deaf Parenting Skills courses to deaf parents from across the UK.

DPUK ran a Parenting Skills Courses in Southwark, South East London last year, aimed for Deaf Parents with Teenagers.

More courses are planned so look out for any forthcoming announcements!

Funded by:



DPUK MAILSHOT *Your experiences, your views, your topics...*



'I smack and I'm

Proud' programme was shown on ITV1, 9pm Thursday 21st September 2006. The programme was about parents being proud of smacking their children.

I watched the programme and disagreed with their views on smacking.

Children today, need to know from right from wrong and have respect for their elders and the society that we live in.

The truth is Parenting is difficult, this is one of the controversial subjects we talk about all the time – we call each other right or wrong until we are blue in the face!

The fact is children do need rules, discipline and clear boundaries but there are countless ways of doing this. Parents need to be creative and find ways of working with children to ensure good behaviour, not compliance through fear.

Do you think parents should be allowed to smack their children?

I believe smacking should be used only as a definite last resort. Parents need to show children their boundaries, as we know the saying goes... boundaries and disciplines make children feel loved and secured.

Which do you REALLY think is more harming to a child?

Failing to outline a serious boundary because the child has not taken a verbal warning, material punishment seriously? OR

A light smack - that will actually work by "shock" rather than true physical harm?

If it comes to the point that my child stops responding to other disciplines, then I will resort to smacking and for the record, I **WON'T** be "proud" - but I will do it
Names have been withheld on request.

Information on finding the right childcare...

We know that finding suitable childcare for your children is a big decision, and one that depends on your family's personal needs and circumstances.

I have 2 children who both now attend school full time, but as toddlers they were cared for by a childminder.

Finding suitable childcare was difficult, but thanks to the support of my mother who found lots of information from my local council's Children's Information Service.

The only problem was that the leaflets were not BSL friendly and I know that not all deaf parents would be able to make informed decision through lack of understanding. Also there was no information about where we can book an interpreter to help with communication needs and who would cover the costs etc.

With my mother's support I found a good childminder and my children have adapted well with this childminder, it was also good for them to interact with other children as well.

I did have one small problem with the childminder when she contacted my mother for some clarification. As a parent I felt that she should have contacted me directly. Her response was that it was quicker to contact my mother and I put her straight that she should contact me first and foremost through typetalk or email etc

Perhaps there is a need for childminders to attend Deaf Awareness Training so that they are fully aware of deaf people's needs. It may be a good idea to contact the National Childminder Association and influence them to take up training on Deaf Awareness for their staff/members etc.

Sarah Dobridge, Bromley

Do you share similar/ different views? What problems did you experience in finding suitable childcare? You can email your comments for the next issue's newsletter.

Useful information: If you are looking for childcare in your community, contact your local Council's Children Information Services or Children's Services Department.

Alternatively, you can check out the recommended Government ChildcareLink site. This is a national web site that holds details of local childminders, day nurseries, playgroups and toddler groups.

www.childcarelink.gov.uk

The National Childminding Association can provide parents with information to help find and choose a childminder.

www.ncma.org.uk



Tax Credits...what is it?

From April 2003 the Government introduced the Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credits.

Tax credits are payments from the government to help with everyday costs. If you're responsible for at least one child or young person who normally lives with you, you may be eligible for Child Tax Credit. If you work, but earn low wages, you may be eligible for Working Tax Credit.

You cannot receive Working Tax Credit if you are not working.

Are you receiving Tax Credits? Check to see if you qualify for Child Tax Credit / Working Tax Credit. For more information about tax credits, check out the websites:

www.direct.gov.uk and click under Money, Tax & benefits section.

www.taxcredits.inlandrevenue.gov.uk

Minicom / textphone:

England/Scotland and Wales: 0845 300 3909

Northern Ireland: 0845 607 6078

Hot topic for next newsletter – Mother versus Father on Parenting views - what parenting means to you and how you parent your child/children. Email your comments to deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

DPUK Announcement *Sharing your news...*

Did you know...

The new law on child car restraints came into force on Monday 18th September 2006.

Children aged under 12 and measure less than 135cm (4' 5") must use the right baby/child car seat, booster cushion suitable for their weight when travelling in cars, vans and goods vehicles.



Handy Tips and Hints

- Check any labels for suitable weight before you buy or use any baby/child car seat or boosters.
- Make sure baby / child car seat or boosters are securely fitted.
- If unsure, get expert advice. Many retailers have trained in-store experts who can advise the best kind of baby / child car seat or boosters and show you how to fit it.

Share your news/ dates of events to DPUK...

If you would like to have it printed in next issue's newsletter - please email your details to:

deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

DPUK Family Fun Events

Deaf Parenting UK has received funding from **Local Network Fund (LNF)** to run one monthly Family Fun' events for Deaf Parents and children, covering the South East London Border.

This is an opportunity for children to be entertained in a deaf friendly environment and for Deaf Parents to meet new people!

Look out for forthcoming announcements...

Deaf Active Family Fun Day



Rounders Match for Deaf Adults & Entertainments for young children

At

Crystal Palace Park

Saturday 16th June 2007

11am - 3pm

Children's Entertainer booked from 11.30am until 1.30pm to keep children entertained while you play Rounders. Entertainment includes face painting, balloon modelling, puppets, fun and games etc

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC & MEET AT CRYSTAL PALACE PARK CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, 11AM

Jonny Nelson – Sports Development Officer: 07751 244853

Nicole Campbell - DPUK Coordinator: 07884 277225

Working in Partnership with:





NOTICE BOARD



PPI Forum for Bromley PCT

If you have any problems or angry about poor services with NHS or PCT such as GP, Chemists, walk in centres, dentists etc, you can contact Sarah Dobridge, a deaf parent who is a member of the PPI Forum (Patient & Public Involvement) for Health in Bromley.

For information or advice, email Sarah:

Sarah.dobridge@tiscali.co.uk

Parent & Toddler Group

All deaf parents and hearing parents of deaf children are welcome.

Every Thursdays from 11am – 2pm at
*Deaf Access Centre,
Community House
South Street,
Bromley. BR1 1RH*

Tel: 020 8315 2550

Fax: 020 8315 2554

Minicom: 020 8315 2552

SMS: 07732 449349

Email: information@deaf-access.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE...PRESS RELEASE...



Annual General Meeting & Family Fun Day

Deaf Parenting UK is pleased to announce forthcoming AGM meeting planned for July 2007, also incorporating mini launch to celebrate the DPUK revamped website and Family Fun Day Event for all.

Watch this space!



Greenwich Deaf Playscheme

GDPS will run the summer 2007 playscheme, available to all Deaf children, and hearing children who are sign language users. Children must be aged between 8-15 years and living in one of the boroughs: Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lewisham & Southwark.

For applications and information about the summer playscheme, contact the Administrator giving details of your child's/children's names, ages and your address details:

Email: queenk79@yahoo.com

SMS: 07792 648382



Summer Fun Day 2007

Saturday 7th July 2007

At

East Horsley Village Hall

Kingston Avenue

East Horsley, Surrey KT24 6QT

From 2pm - 9pm

To book place, complete booking form.

Enquiries and booking forms

contact@codpuk.org.uk

DPUK CONTACTS

Nicole Campbell
DPUK Coordinator

SMS: 07789 027186

E Fax: 44 871 2643323

Email: deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

DPUK Board Trustee

The DPUK Board Trustee is a group made up of a Working Party consisting of deaf parents, professionals and service providers working together to identify gaps in information and services and find ways to improve access for deaf parents.

Sabina Iqbal: Chair / Founder

Trudi Collier: Deaf Counsellor

Jessica Wilde: Dering Employment Services Ltd

Ramon Woolfe: Remark!

Yasmin Kovic: NSPCC

Penny Beschizza: Co-opted Trustee

All trustee members are deaf parents

Want to become a trustee member...?

If you are a deaf parent and have an interest in becoming a trustee board member, please email your CV and covering letter explaining why you want to become a member.

Please submit your CV/cover letter to:

deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

**Calling Deaf Parents of young children or Teenagers...
Service Professionals for Health / Social Services...
Want to know more about DPUK Services on Deaf Parenting Skill Courses?
Contact DPUK Coordinator for more information.**