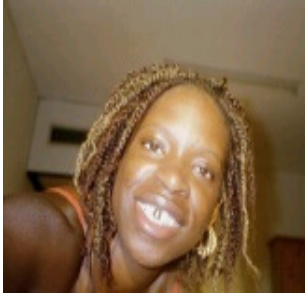




Deaf Parenting UK



WELCOME!



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

With summer fast approaching, we bring you updates covered in

this issue, including the success of DPUK 5th Year Celebratory Launch.

Don't forget, to register with DPUK to receive a copy of the newsletter update if you haven't done so, by contacting the DPUK Coordinator.

Happy reading and have a great summer!

Nicole Campbell
DPUK Coordinator

Deaf Parenting UK celebrated its 5th Year Anniversary Launch on 19th May 2006, at Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children in London.

Deaf Parents, friends and families, Deaf organisations and Service Professionals attended the event.

Sabina Iqbal, Chair and Founder of DPUK gave an opening speech and declared how DPUK can take a vital role in filling the gap in services for Deaf Parents and Deaf Parents to be.

Nicole Campbell, herself a Deaf parent and DPUK Coordinator gave a report on the success of Deaf Parenting Skills Courses and the publicity of Training Opportunity for Deaf Parents to become Qualified Trainers and run DPUK Parenting Skills Courses.

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Deaf Parenting UK's Logo launched

To the excitement of the audience, a Brand NEW logo was revealed publicity for the first time!

The design of the logo is a simple and sophisticated symbolic circle form of a family life.



In addition to the launch of the new logo and to celebrate,

much to the delight of DPUK and everyone who attended, two delicious cakes, displayed with the DPUK logo was brought in to toast DPUK on successfully reaching its 5th Year milestone.

A big thanks to Frank Barnes School, DPUK's staff & Board of Trustees for their contribution and support in making the successful event a day to remember.

DPUK NEWSROUND *Deaf Parenting News nationally...*

Toddlers and Kids Day out at the Park... A perfect time for Deaf Families to meet up for chat and picnic, have fun and watch the kids play. This event was organized by Zoe Fudge, a Deaf mum with 11 month old daughter.

The event took place at St James Park on Saturday 1st July, and the Park has a beautiful Duck Island with many wild breeds of ducks, geese, swans, pelicans etc, a lake near the refreshment points café with toilets and baby changing rooms and a playground for the children to play!



"It was a lovely day catching up with other deaf families, and to see toddlers and kids enjoyed the day too. Everyone was chilled out, lying in the beautiful sunshine. About nine families attended, some came from outside of London, which I fully appreciated because they made the effort to travel for the chance to meet up with other families. We all have been sharing our experiences as parents, which was helpful and fun. I was watching my daughter, Jamila Daisy who is 11month old crawling

around, sharing toys with other toddlers, she seemed to be so happy but it was a shame that most of the other parents did not stay long because England was playing in the World Cup quarter finals that same day. It would have been nice to have more families or perhaps stay a little longer but having met all the parents, it turned out to be a great day anyway.

I will definitely arrange another day for deaf families to meet, as it has been so lovely seeing everyone enjoying themselves.

Many thanks for the families who came and spent a few hours with us. I will certainly make sure the next event does not clash with football! Overall, it was a great day that we will always remember!



If you have any news regarding Deaf Parenting or are organising/ recently had Deaf Parenting event, please let DPUK know by email or fax us information to DPUK.

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

Communication with schools - Deaf father's experience

I recently attended my eldest daughter's School Parents Evening and requested for a sign language interpreter for communication support a week before the date of the event.

I found out that the school had booked the sign language interpreter through an interpreting agency the day before the parent evening. I was not happy of the way they handled the booking.

Supposing there is a national shortage of Asian or foreign spoken language interpreters, how does it solve the problem of booking interpreters at short notice? Does Deaf parents, especially those who use BSL as 1st language have equal rights as hearing parents who don't speak English?

On my arrival at the school and having met the sign language interpreter, there was some confusion with the booking form, which showed my surname as the teacher with 'Mrs' and my daughter's mother maiden name as the parent! As a Deaf father, I found that disappointing because it showed a poor standard of professionalism and model of poor practice.

The amusing bit was just before we left the school, the sign language interpreter overheard one of the school pupils, a young black teenage boy, saying, 'I like the way he signs, it is cool!'

Would it be better for the school to include BSL in their curriculum? I feel that BSL as a language still do not receive the equal status as any foreign language in Britain despite its official recognition by the Government in 2003.

(Names have been withheld on request)

Deaf Parenting Skills course – feedback from a Deaf Mother...

I have been attending *Deaf Parenting Skills course for Deaf Parents with teenager* and it has been most interesting.

I also found that I have learnt lots of new parenting skills, it works for me but I still feel the need learn more. That's why I decided to go on the [Parenting Skill course](#) to help me benefit from it for my children and me. I have two kids who seemed to have improved and I will carry on using the skills I have learnt and not to give up!

It is very important for parents and children to have confidence, self-esteem and I want to be a positive parent for my children. I have found that the [Parenting Skill course](#) has given me more confidence and now I am studying child psychology and start a new job in September, working at a secondary school on Deaf studies.

I hope to become a Parenting expert, working with Deaf parents with hearing children/ Hearing parents with deaf children in the future, but we shall have to wait and see!

Sarah Dobridge, Bromley

Your views to Deaf Parenting UK

Share your thoughts/views on above topic on:

- [Communication with your child's school](#)
- [Deaf Parenting Skill Course](#)

Do you share similar/ different views?

DPUK would like to hear from you!

If you would like to respond and have it printed in next issue's newsletter - please email your comments to DPUK on

Email: deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

Fax: 020 8317 3126

DEAF PARENTS ARE BEING OVERLOOKED (USA) March 26, 2006

Why are theaters and school plays giving the deaf community a hard time?

I have given this some thought, and maybe if I speak up and give some insight on what the deaf community has been struggling through to gain equal access to enjoy what the hearing community takes for granted, you will begin to understand.

Hearing people don't have to worry about asking for an interpreter so they can enjoy the event they are going to attend, they just go and enjoy. A deaf individual has to call in advance and ask for an interpreter and more times than not will get one of the following responses:

"No, it will be too hard to get one."

"No, it costs too much to hire one."

"No, it would be too distracting for others."

"No, we don't do that sort of thing, and we won't do that sort of thing."

When an interpreter is provided, we are told where to sit in the theater.

Just recently, I went to the play "Annie" at Broadway Middle School. When I went to purchase my ticket, I was asked if I wanted to sit in the "deaf seats." When I went to my seat, I found the "deaf seats" were all the way on the left side of the theater. The interpreter stood on stage, just above the stairs. It was extremely difficult to watch the interpreter and see the activity on stage. This situation made me feel as if the deaf community was being

stuffed into a bag and tossed to the side - out of sight, out of mind.

Title III of the ADA clearly states, "No individuals shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person who owns, leases or leases to, or operates a place of public accommodation."

Elmira cannot turn its head away from the fact that there is a handful of deaf parents that are trying to be good parents for their children.

I have been lucky these past years as my hearing children went to school in Pine City. They always provided an interpreter for me. This made me feel like I was a real parent to my children and I truly appreciated them for their understanding.

I think the rest of the area should follow their example and stop the discrimination of the deaf community.

KELLEY CROCKER **Pine City**

(Extract from www.stargazettenews.com)

Do you share similar experiences in accessing to theatre/leisure activities with your children?

Any good place that is Deaf-friendly that you wish to recommend/share with other Deaf parents?

DPUK want to hear from you!

DPUK Announcement *Sharing your news...*

Announcement from Parentline Plus...

Parentline_{plus}

"We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on Deaf Parenting UK's 5th Anniversary. We are delighted to inform you that Parentline Plus will be receiving deaf awareness training, including both members of staff and the senior management team. We will be developing ongoing deaf awareness training throughout our organisation. We are keen to have the opportunity to communicate with deaf parents and Deaf Parenting UK, and feel confident that working together we can achieve this. We recognise that Deaf Parenting UK is a valued organisation and look forward to continue working in partnership with your organisation".

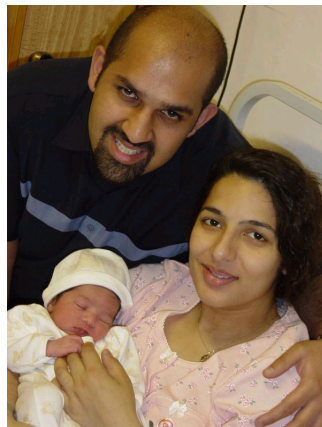
Sally Mehta, Service Director



Birth Announcement



Many Congratulation to Sabina & Asif Iqbal on the spontaneous water birth of their baby daughter Samaira Rani Iqbal on 25th May 2006 at 6.29am, after a 3.5hr labour, weighing a healthy 6lb 3oz.



Sabina, Chair & Founder of Deaf Parenting UK, gave

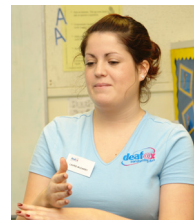
a sign of relief: Phew, Samaira came two weeks early but luckily she decided not to come out at the DPUK launch on 19th May to celebrate 5th Anniversary of the DPUK! Instead, she was contented and decided to come out a few days later.

Sabina & Asif wants to thank everyone for their congratulations and best wishes.

Do you have any announcement of your pregnancy/birth/ birthdays or any good news, **DPUK** want to hear from you!

Teenager Parents wanted

Deafax are looking for your help in finding out how easy or difficult it is for deaf young people in getting information on pregnancy issues with the health authorities.



Laurie McGarry was appointed by Deafax to interview young deaf people aged between 14 - 30 years who were parents or are 'parents to be' in their teens or early 20s

Laurie will be happy to meet you or anyone else that can spend 30 minutes answering questions to complete the questionnaire. All answers will be confidential and no names will be mentioned in the report that we are putting together. If you want to make life easier for other deaf parents by telling us your experiences then please contact Laurie either by writing to:

Laurie McGarry, Deaf Youth Researcher/Trainer
Deafax, No 1 Earley Gate,
University of Reading
PO Box 236, Reading RG6 6AT
Email: Laurie@deafax.org



NOTICE BOARD



Deaf Parenting Skills course

Deaf Parenting UK are running *Parenting skills course for Deaf Parents with Teenagers* and living in the London Borough of Southwark.

The workshops will run from **9th September 2006** for 12 weeks and the workshops will be held in Peckham, South East London.

For more information about the Deaf Parenting Skills workshops, please contact the DPUK Coordinator:

Email: deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk
 SMS: **07789 027186**
 Fax: **020 8317 3126**

Deadline for receipt of application forms
FRIDAY 11TH AUGUST 2006

Greenwich Deaf Playscheme Project

GDPS will be holding a summer 2006 playscheme for deaf children and hearing children of deaf parents. The age groups are from 8 –11 years and 12-15 years and the children must live in one of the following boroughs :- Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Lewisham and Southwark.



For more information about the Greenwich Deaf summer playscheme arrangement contact:-

Jessica Wilde
 GDPS, 13-14 Greenwich Quay
 Clarence Road
 London SE8 3EY

Email: Queenk79@yahoo.com
sms: 07751 244853

CoDPuk – Children of Deaf Parents

An organisation whose aims to inform, mentor and work with deaf parents in the UK, in broadening the horizons of and nurturing their children's self esteem. Check out their website www.codpuk.org.uk for diary dates of future events:

Sunday 23rd July 2006

Picnic & Fun day
 11am – 4.30pm at
 Tilgate Park and Nature Centre
 Titmus Drive
 Crawley
 West Sussex RH10 5PQ



Meet other deaf parents and children.
 Bring own picnic and games.

Deadline for receipt of placement forms:-
MONDAY 24TH JULY 2006



Deaf Parenting UK

DPUK CONTACTS

Deaf Parenting UK
4th Floor Charles House
375 Kensington High Street
London W14 8QH

Stephen Dering - Director

Tel: 0207 471 6770
Textphone: 0207 471 6769
Fax: 0207 471 6768

Email:

stephen.dering@pertempsmouzer.co.uk

Nicole Campbell – DPUK Coordinator

SMS: 07789 027186
Fax: 020 8317 3126
Email: deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

Free DPUK Email Group

The Deaf Parenting UK has an E-Group that offer free discussion/ debate/ support forum for Deaf Parents on parenting issues.

This Free Email Group is for deaf parents, professionals and services providers.

To join, please send blank email to:

deafparenting-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Or join via website on:

www.groups.yahoo.com/group/Deafparenting

If any problem, please contact Nicole with your email address, so that she can add your name onto the email group.

Deaf Parenting Skill Course

If you are Deaf Parent or service provider of Health or Social Services and want to know more information on Deaf Parenting Skill Course, please contact DPUK Coordinator.

Your views to Deaf Parenting UK

A problem shared... got something to say? DPUK wants to know!

Please send in your comments, news or anything you think we would like to publish in our forthcoming newsletters.

Contact **DPUK** on:

Email: deaf-parenting@hotmail.co.uk

Fax: 020 8317 3126