



The Parenting Education & Support Forum

- National umbrella body for people who work with parents; membership
- Inform, support and regulate the sector
- National Occupational Standards
- National Register
- Shortage of workers
- Parenting UK



Every Child Matters

- Be Healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well-being
- Every **Parent** Matters



Research findings

- “The most important influence on a person’s level of self-esteem are their parents: once parents have had their say, little else in life is able to modify the opinion of self thus formed” *The costs and causes of low self-esteem* Prof Nicolas Emler; Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2001
- “Parental involvement in the form of “at-home good parenting” has a significant positive effect on children’s achievement and adjustment even after all other factors shaping attainment have been taken out of the equation.” Desforges DfES report 433 (2003)



ECM requirements for Children's Trusts

- April 2006 Children's Services Strategy
- Directories of services for children and their families
- Inspectors' benchmark requires parents be offered a range of services before there is perceived to be a danger to the child
- Consult parents
- **Parenting Services Strategy....?**



Where?

- Children's Centres- by 2010 there will be 3,500, one for every community
- Extended Schools- by 2010 all schools will be extended schools
- Parenting Orders – Youth Justice, schools and local authority
- Respect agenda



Children's Centre Guidance

DfES Dec 05

Expected changes in practice including:

- Information and advice for parents
- Structured parenting programmes
- Outreach and home visiting
- Targeted support
- Employing more highly trained and qualified staff
- “Staff seeing themselves as their partners”



Extended Schools

- Provide information about parenting services
- Offer support to parents in their parenting role
- Provide access to services in-house or in the community
- Be alert to the needs of parents including minority ethnic parents and fathers
- Common Core of training for the children's workforce
- These services will be inspected by OFSTED



Respect Agenda

Respect Action Plan commitment to

- deliver and support the training of staff from a range of relevant professions, for example, social workers, clinical psychologists, community safety officers and youth justice workers (Parenting Academy)
- train Parent Schools Advisers, the new outreach workers who will intervene early in supporting children and families where there are signs of problems
- address the complex needs of vulnerable families



Workforce implications

- ***"The idea is to train people properly, the people who are going to help do these parenting classes; they get the proper training"***
- Tony Blair on BBC Breakfast on 10.1.06 speaking about the Parenting Academy



Regulatory structures

- Not just for “classes”
- Need to keep the workforce on side
- National Occupational Standards
- Range of training and qualifications at university and pre-university levels
- APEL; National transferable framework
- Continuing Professional Development
- Volunteers
- Recruitment procedures



Nunc dimittis.....?

- Not for children... 16 European countries have banned hitting children, not the UK
- There is still no funding for universal parenting services
- Parenting and relationships education continuum
- Parenting is an indispensable public service – we deserve whatever services we need.
- Leonardo conference; other flyers;
- www.europarent.org

www.parenting-forum.org.uk
www.parenthood.org.uk