

E-LINKS

ISSUE 2

Dear Member

News bulletin is produced fortnightly and is designed to keep you up-to-date with the latest developments in children and family policy.



In this edition you will find the following:

- Information sharing
- Grandparent power
- Playwork sector skills council relicensed
- Get involved in Playday 2010
- Funding for voluntary sector adventure play
- Government signals changes to vetting and barring.
- Fatherhood Institute
- Pilot scheme to help separated parents
- Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC)
- Family Information Directory
- Child Safety Week 2010
- Literacy volunteers
- **New Membership Packages**

If you have any news or information that you would like to share in the E-Bulletin please email membership@childrenslinks.org.uk

Committed to improving the quality of children's, young people's and families' life experiences

Unclear about information sharing?
Confused about what information you can share, with whom and when?
Effective information sharing is key to delivering better public services that are coordinated around people's needs.
The Government has published guidance and supporting materials on information sharing, which have been updated to apply to those working with adults as well children and young people. Widely endorsed by charities, governing bodies and professional organisations, the guidance offers clarity on how to share information legally and professionally, whichever sector you work in.
For more information and to order copies of the guidance and supporting materials, log onto the Every Child Matters website at www.ecm.gov.uk/informationsharing

Grandparent power

A free online service has been launched for grandparents with childcare responsibilities. The information and advice website.

Begrand.net was announced towards the end of last year. It's one of the new 'Parent Know How' services for parents and carers.

Playwork sector skills council relicensed.

SkillsActive is pleased to announce to the playwork sector that it has successfully been relicensed as part of the governments rigorous review process of sector skills councils.



Get involved in Playday 2010.

On 4 August and throughout the summer of 2010, thousands of children, young people and families will get out and play at local Playday events to celebrate children's right to play. For more information visit:

www.playday.org.uk



Funding for voluntary sector adventure play

Children and parents are delighted with the improvements to their community-run adventure playgrounds under a grants programme managed by Play England on behalf of DCSF.

<http://www.playengland.org.uk/>

Government signals changes to vetting and barring.

Sir Roger Singleton, the Government's Chief Adviser on the Safety of Children of the Independent Safeguarding Authority, has made a series of recommendations on how best to change the rules governing the Government's Vetting and Barring scheme to ensure it strikes the right balance between offering protection without being overly burdensome. In his report, *Drawing the line*, Sir Roger confirms that the scheme is right not to intervene in private arrangements made between parents and friends. But where organisations make decisions on which adults should work with their children, the requirement to register should apply if the contact is sufficient to allow a relationship of trust. Sir Roger makes a series of recommendations on how to adjust the rules setting out when a worker will have to register to best ensure the scheme is appropriate, balanced and proportioned.

<http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/>



Do you work with children aged 0-19 in a Children's Centres or other early years setting. Have you been successful in engaging with fathers? If so, the Fatherhood Institute is keen to hear from you. In order to feed into the Department of Children, Schools and Families research on what practitioners and settings can do to support and encourage such engagement with fathers.

www.fatherhoodinstitute.org



Pilot scheme to help separated parents

The DCSF has announced a new £4.75 million pilot scheme to run in 10 areas of England, looking at how services can best support separating and separated families. Aims to improve families health and economic well being. The scheme is another stage towards the Government's drive to eradicate child poverty by 2020. For details email: info@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk



The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) is launching a programme to enable Children's Centre outreach practitioners to access training opportunities.

- The training is available not only to staff, but also to volunteers involved in outreach.

To find out more about the training opportunities or to register for the event, visit: [CWDC's website](#):



Family Information Directory

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has launched a Family Information Directory which includes the details of all childcare available to families across England. It aims to show parents the range of providers, from nurseries to childminders and after-school clubs to children's centres, available in their area. It will also offer mums, dads, grandparents and other carers information on services and support available to them at every stage in a child's life.

Further information is available at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/>



**Child Safety Week 2010:
Make time for safety
21-27 June**

Injuries from serious childhood accidents can take months or years to heal, yet many of them take just a moment to prevent.

Join us and thousands of other childcare, early years, health, education, safety, police and fire colleagues throughout the UK in preventing serious accidents happening to the children you work with.

If you have colleagues or potential partners who would like to receive a free Child Safety Week toolkit they can sign up to the CAPT database by visiting the 'join our mailing list' page of the website

www.childsafetyweek.org.uk.

Literacy volunteers help Children to enjoy reading and communicating. They help in primary schools with selected children who find it difficult. They do not teach reading.

Literacy Volunteers is an independent voluntary organisation and registered charity formed on the 14th May 1996. It is a partnership of schools and Volunteers who form its membership. For more information

<http://www.literacyvolunteers.org.uk/>



Membership Service

As a growing National Charity, Children's Links are always looking to improve the lives of thousands of children and young people across the United Kingdom. We have grown a wide range of services in response to need and have identified gaps in services recognised by our stakeholders, parents, children and the wider the community .

Our new membership service has been developed to address the needs of an increasing number of children's services who wanted the support of a national organisation.

A new Membership leaflet has been designed to introduce our New Membership packages: **Gold** at £50.00, **Silver** at £30.00 per year and the **Bronze** that is currently free.

If you would like to take advantage of our new membership packages, please either apply online at www.childrenslinks.org.uk and select 'membership' or contact the membership team on membership@childrenslinks.org.uk

Forthcoming Events:

Safeguarding Training, Third Sector Information Event. Tuesday 23.02.2010
Mansfield, Notts. For further details please contact Tracey Broll:
tracey.broll@childrenslinks.org.uk



Please note:
Postal Address:
Children's Links
Holland House
Horncastle College
Mareham Road
Horncastle
Lincolnshire
LN9 6BW

T: 0845 373 0645
F: 0870 460 4061

customerservices@childrenslinks.org.uk
www.childrenslinks.org.uk