

Including Men in Children's Learning

Evidence from Successful Practice

Wednesday 27th January 2010

Radisson Hotel | Durham City | DH1 5TL





Including Men in Children's Learning

Evidence from successful practice

The Including Men in Children's Learning Conference is a Children North East Fathers Plus event. It will bring together leading organisations from across the UK that are working successfully to include and involve fathers and men in children's learning.

Children North East is the oldest children's charity in the North East. Established in 1891 the organisation runs a number of community based projects and services.

Fathers Plus is one of the leading practice based father work organisations. The service works with agencies and organisation to ensure they involve and include fathers and men.

Fathers Plus' work with family men in schools and children's centres has achieved national recognition and was cited as an example of good practice in the Sure Start Children's Centre Guidance.

Father figures are important to children and young people. Evidence from research shows that where fathers and men are involved in children's lives and learning those children tend to grow up safer, healthier and achieve more.

This conference will give delegates the skills, tools and inspiration they need to successfully begin engaging men in children's learning.

Programme

9.30 Arrivals, Registration and Refreshments

10.00 Welcome and Introduction

Jeremy Cripps, Chief Executive, Children North East

10.15 Why Involve Men in Children's Learning

Roger Olley, Head of Service, Father Work, Children North East

10.45 Father and Male Carer Involvement in Children's Early Learning Transitions

Carol Potter, Senior Lecturer, Leeds Metropolitan University

11.15 Refreshment Break

11.40 Involving Men in Children's Early Learning

Deborah Gornik, Head of Early Intervention, Prevention and Partnerships. Tracy Collins, Early Years Development Manager, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council.

12.00 Engaging Family Men in Schools

Sharon Marett-Gregory, Cluster Manager, Coulsdon and Woodcote Extended Schools Team. Debby MacCormack, Extended Services Development Manager, Croydon.

12.15 Including Fathers and Men through Partnership Working

Carol Newsom, Strategic Manager for Extended Services

12.30 Lunch

1.30 Skill building session

2.30 Refreshment break

2.50 Skill building session

3.50 Feedback and evaluation

4.00 Conference close



~~Every~~ Dad Matters

Skill Building Sessions

Each delegate will have the opportunity to attend two of the below sessions

1. Including Men in their Children's Transitions; from Nursery to Big School

The aim of the Transitions Project was to engage fathers and male carers during the crucial period of their children's transition from nursery to reception class, in order to enhance their children's enjoyment, achievement and learning at this critical early stage of development. Other goals were to increase the confidence of children's centre and school staff in working with men and to support wider co-operative working between early years and reception providers. The project has been developed in partnership with Sure Start County Durham and Fathers Plus.

*This workshop, led by **Charlie Thompson**, Transitions Dads Worker, Fathers Plus will showcase the 1st year evaluation of the project and outline effective strategies for engaging men in the children's centre and school environment.*

2. Family Man through the Ages: School Outreach Programme

This popular school outreach programme has now successfully engaged with over 500 dads and their children across the North East. The project which was developed in partnership between Fathers Plus and The North East Regional Museums Hub is based around an exciting new website for dads, male carers and children. Dads join their children in school for a day to take part in activities such as joining the Roman army and pinning the beard on Egyptian dad! Come along and join this fun workshop, have a go at some of the activities and hear what dads really think about school!

*The workshop will be led by **Charlotte Dack**, Fathers Plus and **Claudia Knott**, North East Regional Museums Hub*

3. Men into Primary Teaching

Leeds Metropolitan University, in partnership with Fathers Plus have developed a resource and approach that is designed to increase the numbers of male school leavers actively considering entering primary school teaching. Session participants will become familiar with the key features and trends regarding men entering primary teaching, experience the use of the resource and gain an understanding of a new way of working in recruiting males into services.

*This workshop will be delivered by **Roger Olley**, Fathers Plus and **Carol Potter**, Leeds Metropolitan University*

4. Learning through Play with Dad

"Fathers spend a larger proportion of their time playing with their young children than mothers do. Even if [they] spend less time with them than their mothers, fathers become meaningful and special to their children through play." (CIVITAS, 2001)

*This interactive workshop will be delivered by **Heather Harkin**, Fathers Plus. It will look at why dads matter to their children's play and will give practical ideas and tips for facilitating play with men and their children in Early Years settings.*

Booking Form

Children North East Fathers Plus Conference Including Men in Children's Learning

27th January 2010, Radisson hotel, Durham

Name _____ Job Title _____

Organisation _____

Postal address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____ Telephone number _____

Choose from these interactive skill building sessions

1.30pm Skills Session 1

Rank in order of preference by circling 1st 2nd 3rd or 4th

Learning through play with dad 1 2 3 4

Men into primary teaching 1 2 3 4

Family man through the ages:
School outreach programme 1 2 3 4

Including men in their
children's transitions;
from nursery to big school 1 2 3 4

2.50pm Skills Session 2

Rank in order of preference by circling 1st 2nd 3rd or 4th

Learning through play with dad 1 2 3 4

Men into primary teaching 1 2 3 4

Family man through the ages:
School outreach programme 1 2 3 4

Including men in their
children's transitions;
from nursery to big school 1 2 3 4

Costs

Full delegate rate **£150**

Early booking discount rate **£99** if
booked by the end of November 2009

Payment to Fathers Plus

Please tick

I enclose a cheque for £150

I enclose a cheque for £99

I enclose a purchase order (number _____)

Please invoice me for £ _____

If you do not want your contacts details
in the delegate packs please tick here

**Please post or fax your completed form
by the 18th December 2009 Cancellations
after this time will be invoiced.**

Children North East Fathers Plus

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