

# Spring 2018 Update



## PEN research on Sutton Trust website

The Oxford University research, published on the Sutton Trust website on Nov 24th, found that PEN's nursery home learning programme (Phase 2 of the Esmée Fairbairn funded project) did have an impact on disadvantaged families.

They reported that it had positively influenced parental behaviour at home, developed the skills and confidence of staff to engage parents

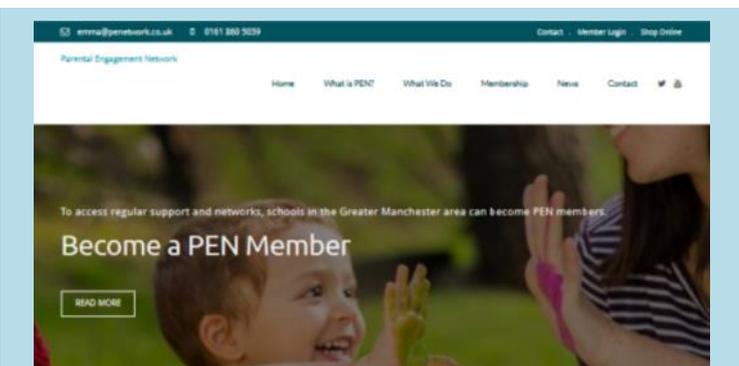
and was cost effective, easily embedded within schools and highly scalable.

We're very pleased with the results and very grateful to all the schools that took part in the project. The training and resources used are available to other schools – see courses overleaf or [www.penetnetwork.co.uk/pen-training](http://www.penetnetwork.co.uk/pen-training).

A final report on the whole project will be published in January.



See the report at: [www.penetnetwork.co.uk/report](http://www.penetnetwork.co.uk/report)



Our new-look website is now up and running! You can now catch up on PEN news, training and more at [www.penetnetwork.co.uk](http://www.penetnetwork.co.uk). It was developed by Jean Atkinson of Eden Marketing: [www.edenmarketing.co.uk](http://www.edenmarketing.co.uk).

We are hoping to post regular examples of schools' work – please email [joanna@penetnetwork.co.uk](mailto:joanna@penetnetwork.co.uk) if you would like to contribute a blog or case study, or if you have any comments.

## Autumn 2017 Network Meetings

- Discussed practical support for parents – including the work of Wood St mission: [www.woodstreetmission.org.uk](http://www.woodstreetmission.org.uk)
- PEN has a list of Manchester

organisations that offer support – email us for a free copy

- Talked about digital safety and practical sessions and advice for parents provided by NSPCC and O2: [goo.gl/2cekij](http://goo.gl/2cekij)

## Getting Families Active

We're delighted to say we're one of 32 organisations (out of 432) that have got through to stage 2 of the Sport England Families Fund. We've applied for a grant to develop an exciting new 3-year project to explore how to support families to be more active together.

If it goes ahead there will be places available for 10 Manchester schools on the project starting in May 2018 and places for 10 Greater Manchester schools the

following year.

We will be training parent volunteers as Family Activity Champions to lead family activities, help families access opportunities in their community and support them to make small changes in their lifestyle.

Let us know if you're particularly interested or would like further information. Opportunities to get involved will be advertised in March if we have places left.



# Training (Available to all Primary Schools)

## 10% off all courses for PEN members

Book a second person onto any course for only £50 (half day) or £100 (full day)

To book please email [joanna@penetwork.co.uk](mailto:joanna@penetwork.co.uk) or visit [www.penetwork.co.uk/pen-training](http://www.penetwork.co.uk/pen-training)

### Mouse Club Transition Project

Training and resources for nursery or reception staff to enable parents to better prepare their children for starting school in September. Training on building relationships with parents, delivering effective workshops and using the resources effectively.

Resources include 7 tip sheets for parents, 12 Mouse toys, sticker charts and activities for children to do at home with Mouse.

Includes input on routines, toilet training, developing language, physical development etc. Ideal for Pupil Premium funded children.

£250

Wed 24 Jan, 1-3.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 14 Jan

### Nursery Home Learning Project

Training for staff on running a programme of workshops and home activities over the year to help parents support their children's learning.

Training includes: Playclub, FUN and Explore! Materials; how to run effective workshops; building relationships and supporting parents with the activities; developing an action plan for implementing and evaluating the project; how to reach out to disadvantaged families.

£450

Thu 25 Jan, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 15 Jan



**"This is exactly what we need – practical fun ways to engage parents in learning.**

**I have been very impressed by the uptake and the very positive outcomes from the project."**

*Headteacher,  
Newall Green Primary School  
Nursery Home Learning Project*

### KS2 Family Detective Reading Project

Introduction to the resources and training on running the project in school. Year 3, 4 or 5 children and their families work together on an exciting challenge, developing their comprehension, inference and questioning skills.

£165

Fri 26 Jan, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 16 Jan



### Coordinating Parental Engagement

This course will give a coordinator tools and support to review different aspects of current parental engagement at the school using a simple framework; learn about positive strategies and resources; explore how to involve other staff and develop a whole school approach to this work; identify priorities and develop an action plan.

£160

Fri 2 Feb, 9.30-3 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 23 Jan

### Moving Up to High School

Explore how schools can support families to prepare for the transition to High School and effectively use the Moving Up resources (included).

**Training for primary schools:** Half day session looking at running workshops for year 6 parents in the summer term; six family summer activities; accompanying tip sheets for parents on topics such as feeling good, getting organised, coping with change and developing new routines.

£120

Wed 7 Feb, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 28 Jan

**Training for secondary schools:** Two days' training for a senior leader or transition coordinator reviewing current work and exploring strategies to develop closer engagement of parents and support children's mental health. Looks at family activities, parents' tip sheets, induction events, making communication more parent-friendly, and developing parents' forums. Includes the summer term tip sheets and family activities described above and further autumn term settling-in activities looking at topics such as supporting learning, bullying and health.

£499

Thu 22 Mar, 9.30-3.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD and another date tba

Please book by 10 Mar



### Developing a Volunteer Programme

This 2 day training course helps a school to develop an effective and organised programme for engaging volunteers. Includes over 20 adaptable templates e.g. volunteer agreements and policies, handouts for volunteers on managing behaviour, induction handbook and procedures, record keeping, supervision, resources to engage other staff etc.

£399

Tue 13 Mar, 9.30-3.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD and another date tba

Please book by 3 Mar

### Managing conflict and having the difficult conversation

Looking at how staff can develop strategies and confidence to successfully manage situations when parents may be aggressive or upset. It is aimed at teaching staff or staff working on reception.

£85

Wed 21 Mar, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 11 Mar

## FREE to PEN Member schools

Sessions can also be accessed by non-member schools for £60

**Family Support Worker Network** for all staff working with vulnerable families

Wed 7 Feb, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

### Network Meetings

Includes discussion about mental health (anxious parents; anxious children) and digital issues.

Central/South: Wed 14 Feb, 9.15-12 at Martenscroft Nursery School, M15 6PA

North: Wed 7 Mar, 9.15-12 at St Mary's CofE Primary School, M40 0DF

### Parental Engagement Co-ordinators' Network

Tue 6 Mar, 1.30-3.30pm at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD.