



Update on the Foundation

Keith Reed

CEO

What's happened since we last met?

- Provided more support and expertise to a growing sector
- Published research to clarify the need for and role of teams and services
- Continuing to influence





Expertise



What's the strength of the network?



SUPPORT FOR PARENTS

SUPPORT US

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There are currently 51
parent-infant teams
in the UK. Click on our
map to find your
nearest.

Keith Reed (Keith@parentinfantfoundation.org.uk) is signed in

33 emerging teams and other services
401 network members





What's the networks favourite resources?

Parent-Infant Foundation website	39,214 views of our homepage from 7,491 active users
Resources for Professionals webpage	4,064 views by 2,738 active users
Implementation Toolkit	123 downloads with 2,115 page views
Commissioners Toolkit	185 downloads with 1,100 page views
Self-audit tool	25 downloads, viewed by 223 active users
Impact report	265 downloads
Mapping Tool	19 downloads with 588 page views

+1,500 connected via webinars, events and peer learning forums each year





What do local areas want?

Driven largely by Start for Life, we have taken on associates to provide support to:

- map existing provision and establish population needs
- develop local strategies
- design new parent–infant teams/services or pathways
- identified and supported improvements to existing services
- adapted local training offers
- run local workshops to increase knowledge and confidence
- write business cases





Research



Who is holding the baby?

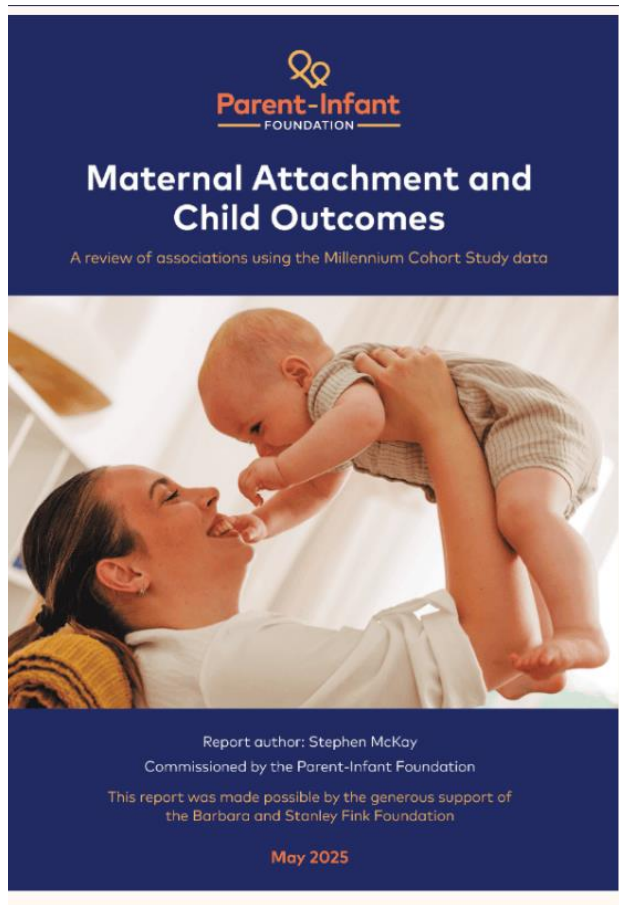
#IMHAW2025



Findings

- Only 4-6% of babies who need specialist support get help from a team
- FOI data shows not all mental health trusts take referrals for babies
- Mental health trusts that show higher numbers of referrals tend to be those where there is team
- Babies seen in other parts of the system are often not recorded
- Specialised parent-infant relationship teams have trained and supported thousands of other professionals
- To reach the most vulnerable babies, Parent-infant teams have developed shared pathways with other parts of the system





Findings

- This is the first estimate of the economic value of improving parent–infant relationships.
- Uses the Millennium Cohort Study data.
- Findings suggest supporting parent–infant relationships could generate at least £900m a year.
- Commissioned in response to demand for stronger economic evidence to justify investment in PAIR teams.
- Analysis identified strong associations between maternal attachment and childhood outcomes.
- But!
 - Some outcomes showed no association,
 - **the shortened attachment measure limits reliability**
- It raises important future research questions.



Research currently underway



- Commissioned to try and demonstrate the 'value' of teams
- Interviewing 6 PAIR teams
- Providing case vignettes
- Trying to undertake a cost-consequence analysis
- Feedback so far shows variation in – outcomes measurement, structure, caseload individually and collectively
- Indirect work is a blind spot
- Published date TBC

Your chance to set research priorities



James
Lind
Alliance

Priority Setting Partnerships

JLA Adviser Zone

▼ About us The PSPs Top 10s JLA Guidebook ▼ Making a difference

The Developing Child UK PSP protocol

- This is trying to identify unanswered questions about community-based provisions that formally support all levels of needs within the social and emotional development of babies, toddlers, and preschool children, as well as the services and workforces delivering this support.

- **You can fill out the survey**

[Tell researchers what you want to know about babies' and children's social and emotional wellbeing Survey](#)





Influence





The Spending Review.

- We'd pressed for the roll out of Start for Life and Family Hubs to every local authority
- We highlighted the need to extend parent-infant relationship support from mild to moderate to severely challenged relationships
- We set out the costs of doing this.
- ✓ The SR confirmed the roll out of family hubs with £500m investment





The new 10-Year Plan for Health.

- ✓ Recognition that, **‘ensuring every child has the best start in life is essential to future health and education outcomes’**
- ✓ Confirmation of the national rollout of the Start for Life programme (embedding parent-infant relationships as a national priority?) alongside Family Hubs
- ✓ A commitment to address longstanding issues with access to specialist children and young people’s mental health services





A New Best Start in Life strategy.

- The Department for Education published its new Best Start in Life strategy shortly after the 10-Year NHS Plan, with clear read across
- Recognition that, **'giving every child the best start in life means supporting families to provide the nurturing care that children need to thrive'**
- As well as national roll-out of 'Best Start Family Hubs', a new Best Start service focused on parenting, and local government plans

Committees

[UK Parliament](#) > [Business](#) > [Committees](#) > [Health and Social Care Committee](#) > The First 1000 Days: a renewed focus

The First 1000 Days: a renewed focus

Inquiry

The first 1000 days of life, from conception to age two, are widely recognised as a critical period for child development, shaping long-term health, well-being, and life outcomes. The previous Committee examined this period in its 2019 First 1000 days of life inquiry considering national strategy, current spending and barriers to investment and local provision. Since then, there have been a number of significant policy developments in this area. The most notable being the shift to integrated care services (ICSs) under the previous Government in 2022. The

Impact of their manifesto

- The 10-year NHS plan commits to expanding and strengthening the health visiting workforce.
- There is a review underway to reduce child poverty.
- A new consultation has been announced to review parental leave.
- There is commitment to work across government departments to align services, and a new child development outcome target and a single identifier





Parent-Infant
— FOUNDATION —