

Parent Champions Awards

Coram Family and Childcare is delighted to announce that the nominations for the Parent Champions awards are now open.

The Parent Champions awards seek to recognise, support, and encourage the work of Parent Champions schemes and the coordinators and volunteers that make scheme possible. Your work is changing the lives of families across the UK and it is time to celebrate your achievements.

We are looking for fantastic Parent Champions, coordinators and schemes that have gone above and beyond to improve the lives of children and families in their local communities.

The awards are for anyone who has been involved with a Parent Champions scheme in the last year. You could nominate a volunteer, a coordinator, or your whole scheme. You can enter as many nominations as you wish and do feel free to nominate yourself and your scheme!

All applications will be entered into one of the five categories below.

Scheme of the year

To recognise a scheme that has had some great achievements in the last year and meets the needs of their local communities. The scheme can demonstrate effective change within their community by reaching isolated communities and/or exceeding their targets.

Coordinator of the year

To recognise the Parent Champions coordinator who has demonstrated outstanding levels of dedication, creativity, and boldness in bringing communities together and worked hard to support and encourage their Parent Champions in their roles as a volunteers as well as in their personal development. (Coordinators can nominate themselves or be nominated by their colleagues or Parent Champions).

Volunteer who has had the biggest impact

To recognise the Parent Champions volunteer who has demonstrated outstanding levels of dedication, enthusiasm and team work. The volunteer may have been particularly successful in some aspect of their scheme, for example have found new ways to reach isolated parents, become a mentor or trainer for new volunteers or have done advocacy work locally.

Volunteer who has made the most personal progress

To recognise the Parent Champions volunteer who has made significant positive development to impact their own life. The volunteer may have an inspiring personal journey, for example, have overcome personal challenges through their Parent Champions volunteering, have built their confidence and developed new skills or used their volunteering to progress into education or employment.

Newcomer - anyone who has joined their scheme in the last 12 months

To recognise the new Parent Champions volunteer who has made significant progress or impact since joining the scheme. The volunteer may have hit the ground running, making a valuable contribution to the scheme or impact on their own life through volunteering within a short time.

Don't worry too much about what you write; we can call you when we receive your nominations if we need more information. Below are a few prompts that you can use to get some ideas. However please feel free to write about whatever you like.

When nominating a Parent Champions scheme

- How has the scheme affected change within the local communities?
- How has the scheme reached isolated communities?
- What activities did you do as part of the scheme?
- What about the scheme makes you think 'Wow...that's clever!'?

When nominating a Parent Champions coordinator

- How have they supported the Parent Champions scheme?
- Have they helped you personally? If yes, how?
- How do they work to improve the local community?
- What are the amazing ideas they have had?
- How do they inspire you?

When nominating a Parent Champions volunteer who has had the biggest impact

- How have they gone out of their way to help their community?
- How has the volunteer changed the lives of other parents through the scheme?
- What have they done for other members of the team?

When nominating a Parent Champions volunteer who has made the most personal progress

- How have they become more confident and happy within themselves?
- Have they overcome personal challenges through their Parent Champions journey?
- How have they used their experience volunteering to progress in education or employment?

When nominating a newcomer - anyone who has joined their scheme in the last 12 months

- When have they gone above/beyond what is expected of them?
- What makes them stand out from other newcomers you have had in the past?
- How has the scheme benefited from the volunteer's contribution?
- What has been their greatest significant achievement so far?

Please submit your completed nomination forms via the Coram Family and Childcare website by **5pm on Wednesday 15 April**.

Make a nomination here: <https://www.coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk/parent-champions/parent-champions-awards/>

Winners will be announced at a ceremony at the Parent Champions conference on **Wednesday 13th May**.

If you have any further questions or would like some help with your application, please contact Tamsin tamsin.hutton@coramfamilyandchildcare.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your nominations!