

Parents and working in partnership



How do we 'see' parents?

- Age
- Learning Disability
- Mental Health
- Substance Misuse
- Physical ill health of parent or child
- Lifestyle/Relationships

Parents early childhood experience

- What's important, look beyond the obvious.
- What do we need to know?
- How can we translate our understanding into practice?
- What service structure would best support parents?

Holding the parent in mind so
that the
parent can begin to hold the
child
in mind.

(2008)

A. Slade

Current services?

- Holistic
- Positive
- Flexible
- Inclusive
- Person centred
- Long term
- Rigid
- Negative
- Inflexible
- Strict referral criteria
- Process driven
- Short term

Communication

- “It is one thing to set up partnerships and strategies to join things up. It is another to develop the mix of skills, energy and commitment to make them effective.”

Whittington 2003



Problem solving approach to practice

- Collaboration at a personal, organisational, structural and political level
- Keep the child at the centre
- Identify the barriers to effective partnership working – find a way.
- Include parents/carers/families as key partners
- Training and continued professional development
- Encourage creativity and flexibility.

Develop 'best practice'

- Walk the journey

