



Partnership for Children
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Registered Charity Number 1089810



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MISSION

To help children and young people, throughout the world, develop skills which will enhance their present and future emotional wellbeing.

China programmes expand

Zippy's Friends is starting to grow quickly in Beijing and Shanghai.

In Beijing, kindergartens have just completed the first year of the programme, helping 1,245 children. That number is expected to almost double this year, as 103 more teachers have been trained to run the programme.

The success of the first year was celebrated at a ceremony organised by the China National Institute for Educational Research, which runs the programme.

HSBC sponsors Zippy's Friends in Beijing, and has agreed to fund it in Shanghai for a further two years. More than 12,000 children have already completed

the programme there, and a further 37,000 are expected to enrol over the next two years.

The mental health of children and young people is a growing concern in China, with researchers reporting increasing rates of emotional disorders among primary school children.



Praise for website

We recently re-designed and re-launched our website, to make it easier for parents and teachers to find the information they want.

Third Sector, the UK's leading magazine on the charitable

sector, has reviewed the new site and given it 15 out of 20. The site was marked on four categories: navigation 4; accessibility 3; innovation 3; content 5.

The magazine commented: 'The site is clearly organised

and easy to navigate. For a site designed on a small budget by the charity's own staff, it is impressively smart, professional and up-to-date.'

Technical support for the re-design was supplied by www.millipedia.co.uk, which also hosts the site.



Helen White, Print and Web Designer

Chris runs two marathons – and more!

When Partnership for Children opened back in 2002, our first office manager, fresh from university, was Chris Taylor. He later moved on to other jobs but, six years on, has just raised money for us by running from London to Brighton on England's south coast, a distance of 56 miles or 90 kilometres, more than two marathons!

'By the time we got to Forest Row, having done the distance of one marathon, I was in the top 50 and feeling pretty good,' he recalls. 'But my leg muscles soon started to strain and I began to

experience multiple cramps that stuck with me for the rest of the journey. There was another marathon, plus some more, before the finish!'

But Chris kept going, crossing the South Downs and finally spying Brighton in the distance.

'The last 20 metres, along the pebbles of Brighton Beach, almost turned my legs to jelly,' he said, 'but I staggered across the finish line 11 hours and 25 minutes after starting, 62nd out of 350 starters.'

You can read Chris's full race report [here](#), and you can also sponsor him online.



Approaching the finish on Brighton Beach

Alternatively, please send cheques to our office.

House of Lords reception

A reception was held at the House of Lords in September, hosted by Baroness Helena Kennedy QC. About 60 people attended, and a number of guests signed up to support our work on a regular basis through the Friends scheme.

Baroness Kennedy spoke of her work in the criminal courts, and said that a failure to develop successful coping strategies in early childhood could lead to terrible consequences in adult life. She called for Zippy's Friends to be offered in every primary school.

Chair of Trustees Doro Marden told guests that the number of children enrolled in Zippy's Friends each year had more than doubled in the past two years.



Baroness Helena Kennedy QC

When someone goes missing

Every year in every country, people go missing. The numbers can be startling – more than 830,000 recorded cases every year in the US, about 210,000 in the UK.

Most of these people are found relatively quickly and are back with their families within the first year. But the disappearance of a family member, even for a short period, can be a traumatic and worrying experience for those left behind, especially children.

Last year, a parent told us that her partner had gone missing and that she had been unable to find any relevant resources or literature to help and support their young son. The UK charity Missing People confirmed that none exist. We commissioned Coventry



University's Psychology Department to review research in the area, but the study 'unearthed no academic research regarding how young children react to having a missing relative.'

We are now keen to fill this gap, with the first study ever to look at how the disappearance of a close family member can affect young children. We see this as a first step towards developing a resource to help these children, their families and professionals who work with them.

If you know of families who may be willing to take part in the study, or if you know of a company or foundation that would be interested to fund the research, please contact Programme Director Caroline Egar.

- Contact us if you would like more information
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