



National Network of Parent Carer Forums

'Our Strength is our Shared Experience'

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contact a family
for families with disabled children

Strengthening Parent Carer Participation

CONFIRMATION OF INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR PARENT CARER FORUMS FOR 2014/15

Contact a Family and the National Network of Parent Carer Forums have been in discussion for some time with the Department for Education about the need for increased funding for parent carer forums, particularly as forums face increased requests for participation and activity to support the Special Educational Needs Reforms. We are pleased to confirm that Edward Timpson, Undersecretary of State, confirmed this today, and as a result, parent carer forums can now bid for up to £15,000 for their parent carer participation grant.

"The Government has confirmed funding for Parent Carer Forums for next year. In 2014-2015, £15,000 will be available for each Forum - an increase of £5,000, compared to the current financial year. Parent Carer Forums have a key role to play in implementing the SEN reforms at a local level. The additional funding available next year reflects the growing demands on them to work closely with local authorities and other partners to deliver the reforms." (Department for Education)

This is fantastic news for parent carer participation and is a direct reflection of the high regard parent carer forums are held in.

GRANT APPLICATION FORMS

We know that some of you have been asking about the 2014/15 grant application forms, and hope you now understand why these have not been available to download as yet, as we have been waiting for a decision about the final amount of grant available. We need to make some final revisions to the forms to reflect this welcome change, and the grant application forms will be available on the Contact a Family website from **21.02.14**



If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact your parent carer participation advisor—you can find their contact details [here](#)