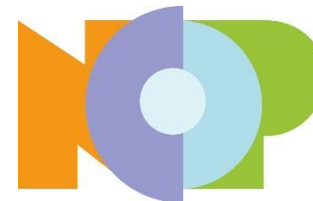


# Parent and Carer HE Ambassador Programme



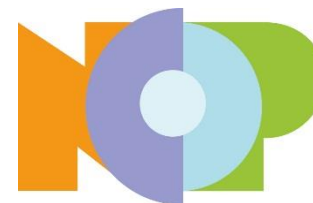
# Why (1)

- Programme manager with strong interest in parental engagement in WP  
(Gazeley et al, 2018)
- Clear emerging theme in schools' consultations
- Help build on schools' own parental engagement.
- Help schools foster an HE culture.
- Encourage schools to get parents thinking about HE early.
- Help WP outreach teams directly access parent voice and utilise them



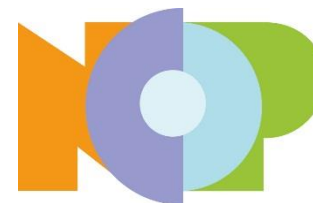
## Why (2)

- Help parents hear from other parents' lived experiences.
- Helps the ambassadors to support each other.
- Create a programme which is 'for parents, by parents'.
- Gain insights into what parents would like from WP teams and outreach programmes.



# Who (1)

- Have children in NCOP priority schools and who have older children at university.
- Have recent experience of SFE and UCAS.
- Are interested in working in school and community settings.
- Are happy to share their stories, their perspectives and understanding and signpost to sources of help.
- Are good communicators.



## Who (2)

- Joanna AP– Birmingham
- Mel – New Bucks and Cardiff Met
- Stephen – Cambridge
- Nicola – Bath Spa
- Rebecca – UEA
- Sarah T– Winchester
- Ginny – Brighton

Eastbourne, Brighton, Crawley, Worthing

Joanna P – QMUL

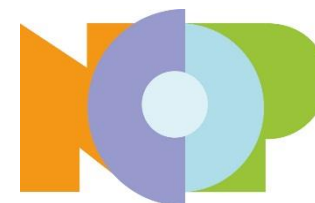
Linda - KCL

Sarah R - Southampton

Louise - Warwick

Daria - Brighton

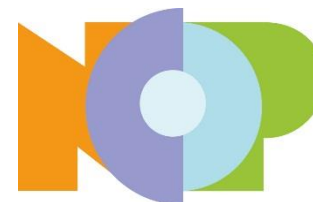
Valerie – Portsmouth



National Collaborative  
Outreach Programme

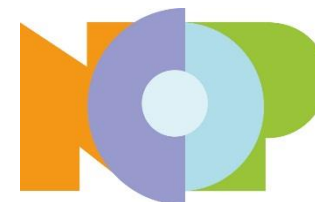
# Where (1)

- Eastbourne – can also cover Hastings
- Brighton - can also cover East Sussex
- Crawley
- West Sussex – based in Durrington



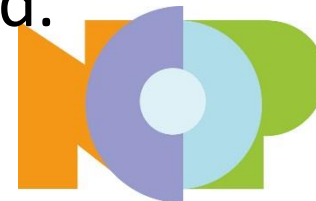
## Where (2)

- Schools – parents evenings, options evenings.
- Partner HEI WP events.
- Community events.
- CEIAG events and activities.
- Events at FE colleges



# How (1)

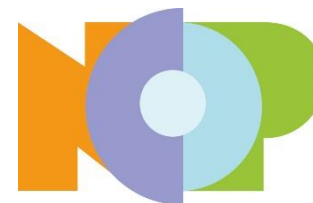
- Schools advertised the scheme in newsletters.
- Parents applied – completed an application form.
- Attended training/interview filter.
- Set up on casual contract with host university.
- Constant contact kept with parents and with NCOP schools leads.
- Weekly HE news update sent out.
- Ambassadors attend project exchanges, forums and other SLN:COP events.
- Receive one-to-one training where required.





## How (2)

- Schools contact ambassadors directly to book them to attend events and copy the programme manager in.
- Programme manager keeps a log of hours and processes pay claims.
- Partner HEIs contact programme manager to book .
- Programme manager seeks out community engagement events – ie. Sussex Community Fair in June



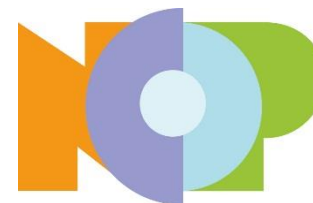
# Quotes and Comments

- ‘It was really useful to talk to someone whose child has a disability and knows what I’m talking about.’
- ‘I loved being able to ask questions and not feel like they’re stupid ones.’
- ‘Great to get an honest answer.’



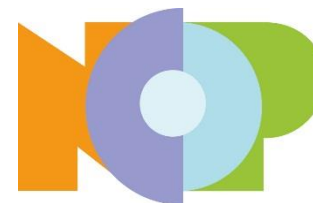
# Numbers

- 14 parents evenings attended to date.
- 4 major WP events attended at the University of Sussex.
- HE Conference for Parents held at the Langham Hotel in Eastbourne.
- Approximately 700 parents reached.



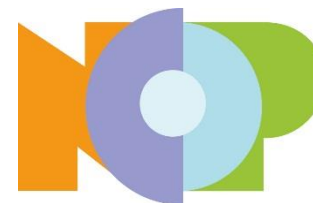
# What next?

- Anticipate quite a bit of use over the next few months with clearing and summer schools.
- Actively looking for community work.
- Schools use to increase now that the pilot has been tested.
- Unintended consequence to be explored – support group.
- Extended use of ambassadors to help design and plan events.



# Resources

- SLN:COP commissioned and produced Parent & Teacher Post 16 Guide.
- SFE explanation of student finance and the loans system.
- Which? University guide
- Sign-posting to Martin Lewis
- Banners and badges



# References

Gazeley, Lofty, Longman and Squire (2018). Undertapped potential: practitioner research as a vehicle for widening participation. *Journal of Further and*

*Higher Education*, DOI: 10.1080/0309877X.2018.1441386

<https://doi.org/10.1080/0309877X.2018.1441386>

