

Fathers Reading Every Day | Lambeth

Thanks to funding from Mercers under its [Young People & Education strand](#), we are running a four-year programme (2023-27) of supported FRED delivery in 24 early years settings in Lambeth.

The project will recruit fathers / father-figures to spend dedicated time building their young children's communication, language and social/emotional development. Settings will invite fathers to a FRED launch, where practitioners will present key evidence about their unique role supporting their child's learning; set them the challenge of spending a set amount of time each day reading to/ communicating with their child; and provide tips for how to do this well. FRED fathers will keep a record of time spent and activities done, return this to the setting, and attend an end-of-project event to celebrate everyone's learning.

The Fatherhood Institute will train early years practitioners in four cohorts of six settings – including nurseries attached to schools, private, voluntary and independent settings and childminders – to:

- Understand fathers' roles and impacts
- Challenge their own, and others', negative fatherhood stereotypes
- Equip them with evidence-based techniques for successful father-engagement

We will provide all resources needed to support annual implementation, and evaluation, of FRED. We will also train a borough-wide 'Dad Squad' of local male volunteers (including fathers from previous FRED cycles), to support settings' promotion, outreach and evaluation activities.

To find out more about the Lambeth FRED programme, contact Kathy Jones k.jones@fatherhoodinstitute.org