

Funding Opportunity for Development and Evaluation of Early Years Interventions

**Friday 19 May 2017
10.30am – 1.00pm**

Background

Gaps in outcomes begin to emerge between children from advantaged and disadvantaged backgrounds as early as age three. The early years therefore represent a key stage for intervention to improve the learning of disadvantaged children. While there is some high-quality evidence about ‘what works’ in the early years, there is less strong evidence to indicate which specific interventions are most effective in improving children’s learning and development. The Nuffield Foundation and Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) are both committed to addressing this research gap in order to support early years settings looking for well-evidenced programmes. This event therefore marks the launch of a call for proposals and a new strategic relationship between the Nuffield Foundation and the EEF that aims to support an end-to-end approach to building evidence in the early years.

The Nuffield Foundation is issuing a call for proposals that focus on the development and early evaluation of promising early years interventions that currently have a limited evidence base. The aim of any funded work would be to develop interventions and their evidence base, in order to demonstrate their readiness for a more rigorous evaluation of their effectiveness via a randomised controlled trial. Where such development is successful, the project would then be a strong candidate for subsequent EEF funding.

This seminar will allow practitioners and researchers to hear more about the criteria and expectations relating to the funding opportunity. Attendees will hear from some leading researchers with experience of developing and evaluating successful interventions. While in addition, the seminar will provide an opportunity for people who have designed and delivered early years interventions to develop partnerships with researchers who have relevant evaluation experience.

Programme

- 10.30am** **Registration, tea and coffee**
Served in the Dining Room
- 11.00am** **Welcome and Introduction**
Tim Gardam, Chief Executive, Nuffield Foundation
- 11.05am** **Importance of Early Years and Well-Evidenced Interventions**
Kevan Collins, Chief Executive, Education Endowment Foundation
- 11.10am** **Nuffield Foundation's Call for Proposals**
Josh Hillman, Director of Education and Opportunity, Nuffield Foundation
- 11.20am** **Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI)**
Maggie Snowling, University of Oxford
Charles Hulme, University of Oxford
- Supporting Parents on Kids Education in Schools (SPOKES)**
Kathy Sylva, University of Oxford
- Measuring Outcomes in the Early Years**
Jane Hurry, Institute of Education
- 12.35pm** **Questions and Answers regarding Call for Proposals**
Josh Hillman, Director of Education and Opportunity, Nuffield Foundation
Ruth Maisey, Programme Head of Education and Opportunity, Nuffield Foundation
Matt Van Poortvliet, Grants Manager, Education Endowment Foundation
- 12.55pm** **Next Steps**
Josh Hillman, Director of Education and Opportunity, Nuffield Foundation
- 1.00pm** **Networking Lunch**
Served in the Dining Room