



What is PARS?

The PARS model of playwork practice empowers adults to let children make their own choices about how they spend their free time. PARS practitioners are less likely to intervene in children's self-directed activities. This increases children's social and emotional development and emotional resilience.

(Chan et al, 2020)



Who uses PARS playwork practice?

PARS is currently being used by around 1000 practitioners in seven different countries, including mainland China, Australia, Hong Kong and Europe. These PARS practitioners are working in a wide range of settings where children spend their free time, such as school playgrounds, out of school care, adventure playgrounds, kindergartens, play projects etc.



Why use PARS?

The PARS model describes and defines professional playwork practice. It enables practitioners to explain how and why their practice differs from other approaches to working with children. PARS was created from research into the origins of playwork by Dr Shelly Newstead as part of her doctoral research programme.



The PARS Online Masterclass (POM) is an in-depth course which enables participants to use the PARS model to articulate, develop and evaluate their playwork practice. This interactive course includes;

- A brief overview of how and why the PARS model was created
- Introduction of key terms and technical language used in PARS
- In-depth exploration of PARS philosophy, theories, methods and techniques and how they are used in practice
- Discussion of case studies and 'real-life' video clips to enable participants to apply the PARS model.

POM courses are delivered by Dr Shelly Newstead, creator of PARS playwork practice.

"The training was well organized with both theories and practices, which enabled me to quickly understand the PARS model. PARS helps adults to improve our understanding of children and play."

Ying PENG, Head of Right to Play China, Beijing, China





PARS Online Practicals (POP) is a short course which enables participants to use the PARS model to articulate, develop and evaluate their playwork practice. It includes;

- an overview of the PARS model
- the philosophy of PARS and what this means in practice
- how to use PARS theories, methods and techniques
- technical language to explain PARS playwork practice to other adults.

"I really enjoyed the POP course. I am now able to stand back and watch the children interact with each other and just let them explore their surroundings."

Kerry Zammit, Daisy Club Ltd, Manchester, UK



POP courses are delivered by our PARS Licensed Trainers. Take a look at our website to find out about upcoming courses and our PARS trainers.

www.commonthreads.org.uk