

# PARS Newsletter

## Welcome to **PARS** Playwork!

Playwork was invented as a unique way of working with children on the adventure playgrounds set up in the UK just after the Second World War. Grounded in the original philosophy of the adventure playground pioneers, the **PARS** model of playwork practice enables adults to make decisions about whether and how to compensate children for the presence of adults in their time and space. **PARS** is a unique form of practice suitable for any adult concerned about shrinking childhoods and the loss of children's freedom.



## PARS Diary

### 3 & 4th April Hong Kong Trainer Refresher Course

Update programme for Playright PARS Trainers

### 8-10th April

Hong Kong

### PARS for Community Workers

Training for NGO staff who will run community playgrounds.

### 11-13th April

Shanghai, China

### PARS Masterclass

Open course for anybody who works with children.

### 15-17th April

Hong Kong

### PARS for Special Needs Centres

Training for staff working in childcare centres for children with special needs.

### 20 & 21st April

Tiandong, Guangxi Province, China

### Introduction to PARS

In-house training for kindergarten teachers.

### 29 April-1st May

Cambridge, UK

### PARS Masterclass

Open course for anybody who works with children.

## Become a **PARS** Licensed Trainer

As you will see from this issue, our **PARS** diary is now full to bursting! So we are currently recruiting experienced playwork trainers who want to deliver **PARS** training to groups in their local area.

If you would like to become a **PARS** Licensed Trainer, please fill in the application form here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9BTH7H3>.



## New **PARS** hoodies!

Our new hoodies are very popular with our trainers and practitioners all around the world!

To keep up to date with **PARS** news, follow us on Instagram



PARSplaywork

## Focus on...**PARS** Stevenage, UK

Here in Stevenage we are applying PARS at the very core of our FREE open access playwork practice and ethos. We are starting with a back to basics approach - "PARSifying" our policies and procedures so that we have a good theoretical and procedural base to work from. With our play teams working a variety of community based settings, we are slowly introducing PARS language and theories into our daily practice and performing PARS setting audits. We will share the audit information to help support staff training, development of our settings and our free open access play offer. Moving forward we hope to start training for holiday playscheme teams and raise awareness of PARS with our parent/carers and local partners.



**PARS**™

Common Threads

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Common Threads trades as a social enterprise.

**30th April**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS for Parents**  
Twilight session for parents who want to find out more about PARS playwork practice.

**4 & 7th June**  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
**PARS Masterclass**  
Open course for anybody who works with children.

**3, 5 & 6th June**  
Utrecht, The Netherlands  
**PARS Masterclass**  
Open course for anybody who works with children.

**8th July**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS Practicals**  
One day training course for staff working in settings where managers have already completed a PARS Masterclass.

**8th July**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS for Parents**  
Twilight session for parents who want to find out more about PARS playwork practice.

**30th August**  
York, UK  
**Out of School Club Conference**  
Come and find out more about PARS playwork practice at this event for out of school settings.  
E: [headoffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk](mailto:headoffice@yorkchildcare.co.uk)

**1–3rd October**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS Masterclass**  
Open course for anybody who works with children.

**2nd October**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS for Parents**  
Twilight session for parents who want to find out more about PARS playwork practice.

**17th October**  
Cambridge, UK  
**PARS Practicals**  
One day training course for staff working in settings where managers have already completed a PARS Masterclass.



## PARS TRAINING

### PARS Masterclass

A **PARS** Masterclass is an intensive course delivered by Dr Shelly Newstead, founder of **PARS** playwork practice. The Masterclass covers...

- A brief international history of adventure playgrounds and playwork
- The original philosophy of the adventure playground pioneers and how this is applied in **PARS** playwork practice.
- An overview of the **PARS** model and explanation of how it can be used to articulate, develop and evaluate playwork practice
- In-depth exploration of **PARS** theories, methods and techniques and how to apply them
- Discussion of case studies and 'real-life' video clips to enable participants to apply the whole **PARS** model to their work with children
- A field trip (where appropriate) to enable participants to reflect on their understanding of the **PARS** model.

### PARS Practicals

**PARS Practicals** is a one day training course for all staff working in settings where managers have completed a **PARS** Masterclass. **PARS Practicals** embeds the **PARS** model across the whole staff to ensure consistency of practice in the setting.

#### JOIN A PARS MASTERCLASS!

Cambridge, UK  
*29 April-1st May*

Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
*4 & 7th June*

Utrecht, The Netherlands  
*3, 5 & 6th June*

Cambridge, UK  
*1–3rd October*

**To book a place**  
<http://www.commonthreads.org.uk/pars-masterclasses.html>



#### JOIN A PARS PRACTICALS COURSE!

Cambridge, UK  
*8th July*

Cambridge, UK  
*17th October*

**To book a place**  
<http://www.commonthreads.org.uk/pars-practicals.html>

[www.commonthreads.org.uk](http://www.commonthreads.org.uk)