

Become a Family Member Reviewer for the Emerging Minds Network

Information Sheet

What's the Project?

[The Emerging Minds Network](#) is a mental health research network funded by [UK Research and Innovation](#). Our vision is to see the number of children and young people who experience mental health problems halved within 20 years. To do this, we are working with many different research organisations and professionals as well as young people themselves. We will be focusing on mental health promotion, prevention and early treatment for children and young people.

We have [4 key Research Challenges](#) that need to be addressed. These challenges build on the questions prioritised by The McPin Foundation's [Right People Right Questions project](#). They have been further shaped by young people, families and practitioners; with support from our partners: [Young Minds and the Centre for Mental Health](#).

We are launching our first funding call in December 2019, inviting researchers to apply for funding for research projects. These projects will tackle one of our research challenges and make a difference to children & young people's mental health. We will be providing funds between £2,000 and £40,000 for each successful research project.

This funding will allow each new project to get started by paying salaries and other costs for the researchers at universities and other organisations to run the project. The funding will also be expected to help communicate the findings to inspire further research and make a difference to the mental health of children and young people.

What's the opportunity?

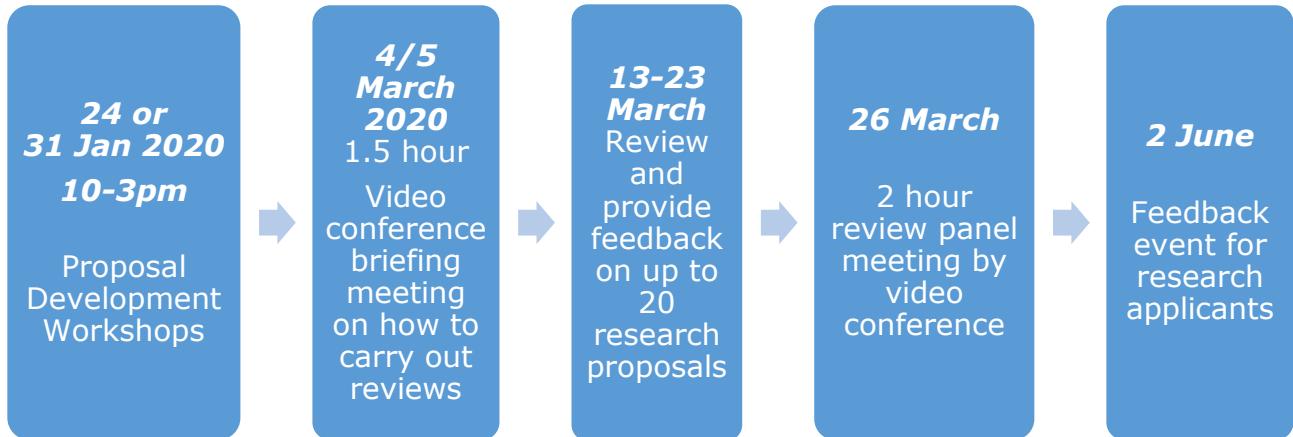
We are looking for 3 parents or family members to help us make decisions on which research projects to fund. This will involve helping to ensure that:

- 1) Researchers are involving relevant stakeholders in the design and delivery of their proposed research projects
- 2) Emerging Minds fund research projects that are most likely to make a difference to children & young people's mental health.

You will also have a chance to feedback to researchers who applied about how we made these difficult decisions so they can continue to develop their research ideas to make a difference to mental health.

Project activities

The activities you will be invited to take part in are:



- **Join one or both of our proposal development workshops on 24 (Birmingham) or 31 January (London).**
 - Participate in informal discussions with researchers interested in applying for funding. This discussion will ensure that
 - 1) They are involving relevant stakeholders in the planning and delivery of their project as much as possible.
 - 2) The project will make a difference to the mental health of children and young people.
- **Attend a briefing meeting for all reviewers by video conference on 4 or 5 March 2020.**
- **Review and provide feedback on research project application forms between 13 and 23 March 2020.**
 - We anticipate you allocating 10 hours to do this during this period. Everyone is different, but you might expect it to take 30 minutes to read each application form (approximately 4 sides of A4 long) and make notes about its strengths and weaknesses from your point of view and any questions you have about the project.
- **Take part in a review panel meeting on 26 March by video conference or in London.**
 - You will be expected to contribute your thoughts about the applications you have read in this meeting. You will work with a group of people from a range of backgrounds to make decisions on the projects to be funded.

- **Attend and present at feedback event for those who applied on 2 June 2020.**
 - You will not be asked to provide personal feedback to any of the applicants (all of your comments will remain anonymous) but we will ask you to work with the other reviewers to share general feedback on how applicants could develop their research ideas in the future. This could include presenting to attendees for 5 minutes for example.

Anticipated total time commitment of 5 days between January and June 2020.

Who are we looking for?

- You are a parent or close family member of a child who experiences or has experienced mental health difficulties and you feel able to apply your experiences to this role. You will not be asked to speak publicly about your experiences, you will simply ensure that they inform your decision making.
- You have an email address and access to a computer, internet and word processing software to carry out the review work and participate in the internet video conferencing.
- Ability to communicate verbally and in writing.
- You are willing to share your views at meetings attended by a range of professionals.
- You are willing to listen to, and consider, different perspectives and opinions.
- You have a strong interest in mental health and would like to learn more about how research can make a difference to the mental health of children and young people.
- You live within a reasonable distance of central London and are able to attend meetings in central London and/ or Birmingham.

Desirable:

- Previous involvement in mental health projects as a participant or helping to develop projects.
- Able to represent the views of a wider number of parents or family members, for example through involvement in a parent support group etc.

What will be expected of me?

Applicants will need to have a strong interest in mental health and a willingness to develop new skills, including reviewing research proposals. Panel members will also need to:

- Read and comment on written information and learn to produce clear, balanced reasons for comments.
- Keep documents you will be asked to review confidential and not share these with anyone.
- Commit to complete work to the deadlines set.
- Have access to a computer with word processing software, internet connection and email.
- Be committed to attend face-face and video conference meetings and letting us know in advance if you are not able to attend.

What will be provided?

- Briefing and support to fulfil the role. This will include an initial 1-hour meeting by video conference or phone between you and the project manager and regular phone catch ups throughout the project. We will discuss and agree with you what support you would find helpful.
- Payment of **£150** for each day you contribute to the project (including both the meetings but also the work to prepare for meetings) so a total of **£750** if you participate in all the elements above.
- Reimbursement for any reasonable travel expenses incurred for the face to face meetings in London or Birmingham (including someone to accompany you if required).

I'm interested! Who do I contact?

If you have any questions about the role or would like an informal chat you can contact Emily or Susannah by email at info@emergingminds.org.uk

If you would like to apply, please complete the accompanying application form and email to Susannah at info@emergingminds.org.uk

What's the deadline to apply?

10am - 9 January 2020