

Fenland Parent Power

A partnership between The Brilliant Club, Anglia Ruskin University and the University of Cambridge.

About Parent Power

Through advice and guidance on accessing higher education, and developing skills in community organising, Parent Power, in partnership with the University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin University, empowers parents and carers in Fenland to make change in their children's future.



Fenland Parent Power in Numbers

78

Parents/Carers

10

University Trips since 2022

100%

Of parents/carers felt better prepared to support their child's aspirations following a university trip

Fenland Parent Power Activities

1. University Trips

As part of the groups' desire to increase their knowledge of higher education, they have won bespoke trips to ten university campuses.

2. Local Campaigns

By listening to the community, we identified that access to transport was damaging the educational opportunities of young people in Fenland. We formed a campaign team, led by parents and carers, who have met with the Mayor of the Combined Authority, obtained press coverage and planned a petition to make this change.

Joanna's Story

There's not so many people [from Fenland] going to university because there's no transport. Young people are not able to move freely or visit nearby towns to socialise or go to events. There's very few people in March who actually go beyond the area regularly.

Joanna moved to the UK from Poland in 1999, and dreamed of her child going to university, as this aspirational culture is important in the Polish community. She found Parent Power when her daughter started secondary school, and has enjoyed being able to learn about how the university application system works in the UK, since it is very different to the Polish system. Joanna has also been actively involved in the groups campaign to establish better active travel across Fenland. She has never previously been involved in a local campaign for change, but was part of a meeting with the Mayor of the Combined Authority in November 2023 to seek his support.