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5th December 2022

Newsletter #5



The winter holidays are approaching, and the Skills4parents consortium finally completed the project results. We are happy to announce the **last news of the project!**

The project in a nutshell

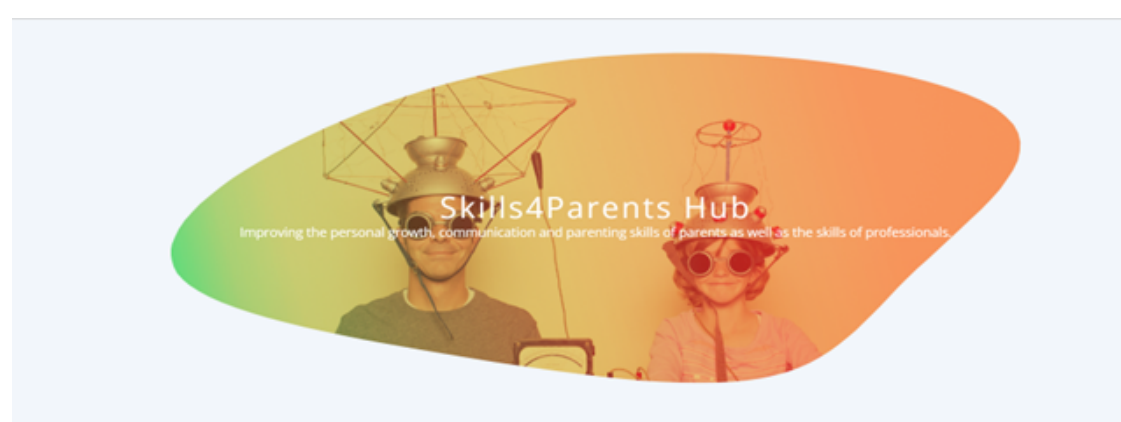
Skills4parents is a project that lasted **24 months**, from 01.11.2020 until 31.10.2022 and included 6 partners from 5 different countries: Belgium, Italy, Croatia, Netherlands and Cyprus. We met on several occasions in presence, for instance in Cyprus and Croatia to discuss the ongoing activities and moreover, in Cyprus, to follow a training course that supported the work of the consortium in the development of **five learning packages** that you can now find on our online Skills4Parents Hub. The development of 4 main outputs was undertaken under the great lead of COFACE Families Europe and the support and work of all partners:

- A **European comparative report** to study existing material and the needs of parents and professionals in the field of parenting skills, using a co-design methodology via focus groups in all the countries of the partnership.
- A **Learning Guide for Parents**, which contains learning packages to boost parenting skills in five areas: Communication, Empowerment, Mediation, Problem-Solving, and Digital.
- A **Handbook for professionals**, which contains a learning plan for each of the 5 packages to use as an example, as well as key tips on how to integrate the Learning Guide resources in existing training programmes.
- A **multilingual online Hub** collecting the five individual learning packages, the different Skills4parents resources and more: Hub.skills4parents.eu

At this point, the Skills4parents team would like to thank you all for the support during these two years and we hope that the website and hub will be helpful for your work or everyday life.

The Skills4Parents hub - easy to use, a lot of materials to choose

The **online digital platform** and community are the centre and the **main legacy** of the project. The objective was to create an online digital platform and community and to adapt the innovative learning material (European comparative report, Learning Guide, Handbook) to the online digital platform. This Hub is now ready not only to **give parents useful material** to use at home to improve their skills on several topics but also to **enhance the professionals' ability** to develop a collaborative relationship with parents and their children.



The online digital platform has different sections to navigate through, where parents and professionals can find specific material dedicated to them. The platform will hopefully also **ensure high access and engagement also by other organisations working in the educational and social fields to boost family and child well-being through new skills**, and other relevant stakeholders all over the EU, since you will find also a community section where you can share your tips, ideas, and suggestions to boost positive parenting. Check the Skills4parents online hub here: Hub.skills4parents.eu

Dissemination and outreach of Skills4Parents resources across Europe

In September and October 2022, the Skills4Parents partners organized national and European multiplier events in 6 countries (Belgium, Croatia, Czechia, Cyprus, Italy and The Netherlands) reaching out to at least 70+ parents and 100+ educators from 18 European Union countries. It was a great success and participants were involved in interesting discussions about parenting, issues of parenting, as well as main goals of educators working with parents. Here is some more information about the multiplier events in the different countries: [Multiplier Events – Skills4Parents](#)

Impact: Skills4Parents Hub and the European Alliance for Investing in Children

COFACE Families Europe has spread the **Skills4Parents Hub** as a member of the [EU Alliance for Investing in Children](#) which issued a joint position paper welcoming the [European Care Strategy](#) as a **key framework to address the needs of children, their families, and carers**. In particular, the strategy aims to ensure available, quality, affordable and accessible care services with better working conditions, gender equality and work-life balance for carers, and to improve the situation for both carers and care receivers. This document includes (1) a comprehensive reaction to the Care Strategy, (2) an analysis of the proposal for a Council Recommendation on the Revision of the Barcelona Targets on Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), and (3) an analysis of the proposal for a Council Recommendation on the access to affordable high-quality long-term care (LTC).

The section of the paper on early childhood education and care includes recommendations on parental support, with a reference to the newly launched Skills4Parents online hub as inspiration for triggering national and European discussions on parental support:

"Support for parents should not only be considered in terms of measures to go back to work but through comprehensive support that includes, for example, psychological support, respite care, strengthening the parent-child relationship and parental skills, recognising family crises, and helping to keep the family together. A variety of national and European resources on parental supports are available as a starting point for developing such supports, including the newly launched European Skills4Parents HUB."

The position paper is available [here](#) and was presented at a [hearing](#) in the European Parliament on 11th October 2022.



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