



## **Government funds child sexual abuse prevention campaign**

**(February 25, 2011)** The Department for Education today announced that the Lucy Faithfull Foundation has been awarded a grant worth £433,430 over the period 2011-2013 to continue its Stop it Now! England child sexual abuse prevention campaign.

The campaign improves front line practice nationally by taking a multi-agency, comprehensive approach to prevention – providing training for multi-agency frontline practitioners, introducing a ‘common understanding’ and advising on engagement with and preventative strategies for families and communities. It highlights signs of abuse, behaviours abusers display, and identifies key risks at times of family vulnerability and school transition. It educates parents, via Children’s Centres and schools – giving them straight-forward practical advice on how to protect children and where to seek help. This is the only campaign in England dedicated solely to preventing child sexual abuse.

Donald Findlater, Director of Stop it Now! said: “We are delighted to receive this financial commitment from government. The most effective prevention takes place before there’s a child victim to heal or an offender to punish and this grant confirms the value of preventative work in this area. Given that many cases of child sexual abuse do not get reported to the authorities, it is vital that this work continues.

“This grant will allow us to deliver research-led, practice-related child sexual abuse training to thousands of multi-agency frontline practitioners; improve the knowledge and confidence of tens of thousands of parents and carers to help them prevent abuse from taking place; and develop a National Network of frontline practitioners to operate as Stop it Now! workplace ambassadors, facilitate parent workshops and develop a team of Parents’ Champions to work with them.

“Additionally, it is heartening to see that so many other voluntary and community organisations have been successful with grant applications for projects designed to help children and families and those who work with them.”

The Stop it Now! campaign is managed by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation and is supported by an alliance of leading children's charities.

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### **Notes to editors:**

More information on the Department for Education’s Voluntary and Community Sector grant scheme can be found here:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/pressnotices/a0074906/voluntary-and-community-organisations-awarded-60-million-grant>

1. Named after its founder, Baroness Lucy Faithfull of Wolvercote, the Foundation is a child protection charity operating UK-wide and specialising in safeguarding children from sexual abuse. The Foundation’s policy is to collaborate with individuals and agencies internationally to develop a more child sensitive and offender aware culture in our societies. The Foundation contributes to legislation and to policy and

procedure reviews concerned with safeguarding children in faith communities, in schools, in leisure facilities, on the Internet and living away from home.

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

2. Stop it Now! aims to prevent child sexual abuse by increasing public awareness and empowering people to act responsibly to protect children. Stop it Now! believes that it is the responsibility of all adults to take positive action to prevent the sexual abuse of children. Stop it Now! is an alliance of leading children's charities, working with the government and child protection agencies, to promote public education and prevent child sexual abuse. The Stop it Now! helpline has been operating since 2002 and aims to prevent child abuse by encouraging abusers and potential abusers to seek help and by giving adults the information they need to protect children safely. The helpline is funded by the Ministry of Justice and the Lucy Faithfull Foundation.

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

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

[www.parentsprotect.co.uk](http://www.parentsprotect.co.uk)

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