

## NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2016

# CBC SEND Parent and Young Person Partnership Service

Telephone: 0300 300 8088

Email: [parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

...Providing Information, Advice and Support in Central Bedfordshire



## Who are we?

- We are a team of two Partnership Officers, Wanda Chappell and Angela Davey and Corrina Durcan our Administrator, providing a year round service.
- We are a statutory service for parents, carers, children and young people from 0 -25 years who have, or may have Special Educational Needs and /or Disability (SEND) in an educational setting.
- All parents/ carers and young people can access us, there **is no referral system or eligibility criteria** other than you have to be a Central Bedfordshire resident.

## What we do

- We give free, confidential and impartial information, advice and support so that parents, carers and young people can make informed decisions about SEND
- We operate a telephone helpline, email support, and face to face support
- We work in an impartial way, providing neutral information based on current SEND legislation and guidance
- We help parents, carers and young people understand what their rights are in relation to education, including mediation and tribunal
- We promote positive partnerships between parents, young people, schools, the Local Authority (LA) and other services
- We are able to put parents and young people in touch with local and national organisations and support groups
- We guide parents/carers and young people through the Education, Health & Care Needs Assessment procedures which are part of the Education, Health and care Plan process
- We help with filling in forms, writing letters, reading through and understanding reports and draft plans
- We support in meetings with schools and the Local Authority
- We help with resolving disagreements
- We provide access to an Independent Volunteer where available
- We provide access to an **Independent Supporter (IS)** with a specific role to support within the Education, Health and Care Plan process where available.

## Drop In sessions

We hold free monthly drop in sessions in Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Sandy and Shefford. They are all held in Children's Centres. Come along and meet a volunteer or an officer and discuss any issues that may be concerning you. More details can be found on our website:

[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership)  
and on the flyers in schools

## Our volunteers

Many parents need, or would just like to talk to someone who understands about their child's SEND. We have trained volunteers who can do just that. Many of them have already gone through similar issues as they have a child or children with SEN. Our volunteers can support you in meetings, filling out forms or can talk you through the new assessment process. If you wish to be put in touch with our volunteers, or if you would like to join our valuable group of volunteers to support other parents, please contact us.

## Independent support

The role of an Independent Supporter is to provide help, advice and support to any family or young person going through an Education Health and Care needs assessment, and those who are transitioning over to the new Education, Health and Care Plan. Our supporter has received specific training for this role. You can also access an Independent Supporter via Core Assets.

The Central Bedfordshire SEND Parent & Young Person Partnership Service **and** Core Assets Children's Services are jointly delivering the new 'Independent Support Service' in Central Bedfordshire.

We are here to provide confidential, impartial and independent information and support. Our service helps families and young people (aged 0 to 25 years) to find their way through the changes to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system. In particular we can support you through the new EHC Needs assessment process and the transfer from statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments to Education, Health and Care Plans. This is a FREE service and we are here to help and support young people and their families. We can provide you with information and support in a variety of ways:

- **Individual face to face** We can provide support from a dedicated Independent Supporter in a place and at a time to suit you
- **Telephone Helpline** To speak to someone about getting help from an Independent Supporter you can telephone **0300 300 8088** for CBC SEND PYPPS or **0800 028 8455** for CORE ASSETS. If for any reason you are unable to speak to someone, please leave a message and we will respond to you as quickly as we can.
- **Via the internet**  
[www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-service](http://www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-service)  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership)
- **Email support**  
[ISreferrals@coreassets.com](mailto:ISreferrals@coreassets.com) or complete the online contact form  
[parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Both services are independent organisations that have been working with children and families for many years. We are passionate about working together to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

## ...Cut out & keep

# One Page Profiles for Children & Young People

A one page profile is a short introduction to a person that captures important and relevant information on a single page which will give carers, staff and people involved with a child/young person an understanding of what they feel and an idea about how best to support them. These are really useful when a child is moving to a new setting, having a different teacher or because it is a new relationship that is about to be built. It should allow important information to be gained by the reader quickly and easily.

A **One Page Profile** typically consists of a photo and three questions, but there are also other formats depending on the purpose of the profile. The questions are:

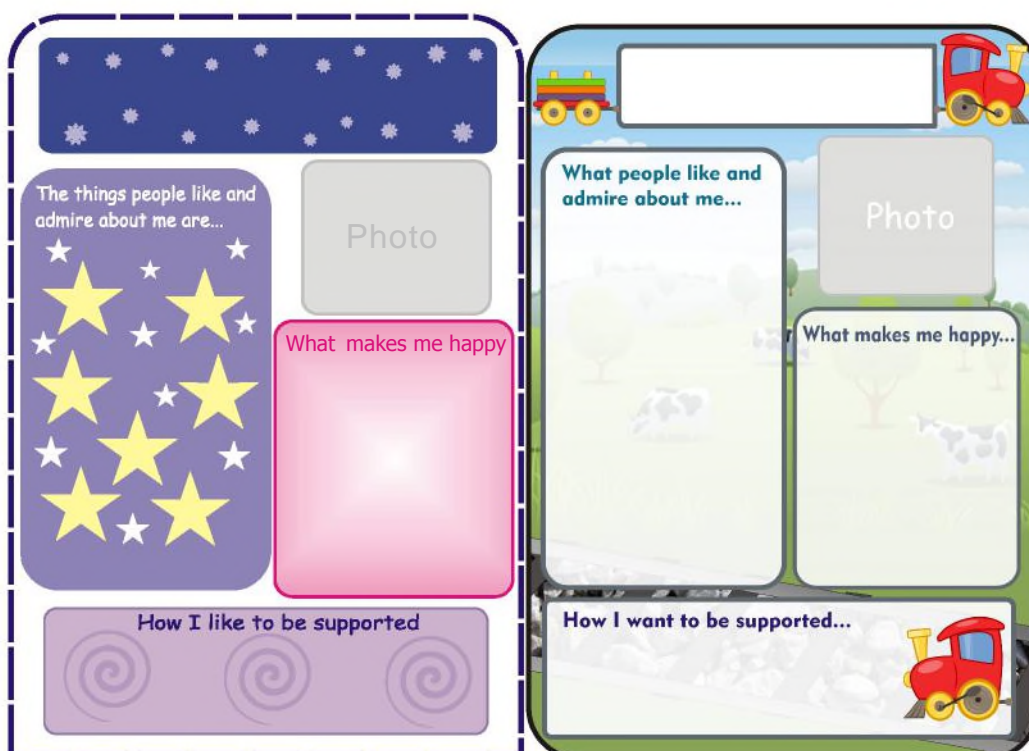
**What is important to me...?** What is 'important to' the person and embraces the important people, places, possessions, rituals, routines, faith culture, interests, hobbies, work etc. which makes the person who they are.

**What others like and admire about me and what I like about myself...** What do other people like and admire about the person? Having positives recorded is important

**How to best support me...** It is very important to collect specific statements on how to best support the person. What kind of support is really helpful for the person? What does the person want and need? What kind of support does the person enjoy? What does not work well – what makes them feel uncomfortable

The profile should be completed by someone that knows the child/young person well, and in all cases, if appropriate, with the child/ young person themselves.

Here are some examples of layouts that could be used – these can be themed to the preferences of the child. There are lots of *free* templates to choose from online that you can download.



 ...**Cut out & keep**

## Free Drop In information sessions - 2016

For parents/carers, children and young people regarding Special Education Needs & Disability  
in educational settings

### **Dunstable South Children's Centre**

(Wednesdays 9.30-11am)

14th September, 12th October,  
9th November, 14th December

### **Leighton Buzzard Children's Centre**

(Tuesdays 9.30-11am)

27th September, 29th  
November

### **Shefford District Children's Centre**

(Wednesdays 9.30-11am)

28th September, 23rd  
November

### **Sandy Children's Centre**

(Thursdays 9.30-11am)

6th October, 3rd November,  
1st December

## Information leaflets



- ❖ Understanding the jargon (glossary)
- ❖ Looking at schools
- ❖ Starting school
- ❖ The Send Support Plan
- ❖ EHC Needs assessment for children in early years settings or at school
- ❖ Annual reviews
- ❖ Getting the most out of meetings
- ❖ Personal budgets

All leaflets are available in hard copy and PDF/word format. Just give us a call if you would like a copy. They can also be downloaded from the Central Bedfordshire Council website.

## Workshop success

**Autistic Spectrum Disorders...**a free information session for parents & carers was held at Ivel Valley School in April. Lisa Charters and Hanneke Lee from Ivel Valley School explained the features of ASD and the reasons for some of the behaviour presented by children and young people. This session is a valuable platform for parents/carers and was oversubscribed.

**SEND Support plan & EHCNA...**a free workshop for parents/carers providing information, advice and support regarding the process was held at The Incuba, Dunstable in June. This was well attended & feedback confirmed that this was a useful workshop which helped to inform parents/carers and gain an understanding of the process.

If you would like to receive details of workshops being held in the Autumn Term or be placed on our mailing list – please contact us.

## Feedback online



We would really appreciate any feedback, both good and bad, from you so we can improve the service that we provide. You can complete an online questionnaire [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parent-partnership](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parent-partnership) within the link 'Related information'. A form is also available as a PDF/word document which can be emailed to you.

## Useful contacts

We are able to signpost you to useful contacts and shared services – see our Facebook page for a full range. Listed below is a selection.

**Bear with us**

**Support and help for parents and carers  
of children and adults with  
Disabilities and mental Health**

A new scheme started on Tuesday the 26th of July 2016,  
and future daytime slots are open from 9.30am to 11.00am  
every other week from this date

Plus there will be another slot on 3rd of August 2016  
evenings from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.  
These will also be running every other week from this date

Meetings are at  
**Arlesey Resource Centre**

For more information please contact:  
**07960634239**

Please come and talk if you feel you need support.  
We are here to help.



**Youth Club - Monday night (term time only) 6.30pm – 8.30pm**  
for young people aged from

10 to 17 years with additional needs/ disabilities

We have a range of activities on offer every week, including  
computer games, arts & crafts, drama sessions & much more

**Saturday Club - 10am-4pm**

full support is provided to allow the young people to attend the club without their family carers.

This is a great opportunity for young people to make and maintain friendships, improve confidence  
and increase self-esteem.

**Britannia Trading Estate, Unit 5, Legrave Road, Luton, Beds LU3 1RJ**

For more information look on our website:  
[www.familiesunitednetwork.org.uk](http://www.familiesunitednetwork.org.uk)

Tel: 01582 42080



Parents Together

Do you care for a child who has a disability or additional needs?

Monthly drop-in for parents/carers on Thursdays 10am – 12pm

**The Hub, Ivel Valley School  
The Baulk, Biggleswade SG18 0PT**

Free refreshments, information, advice & support, opportunity to meet other parents/carers,  
bite size training, pampering and relaxation therapy

Contact Darran Tel: 0300 111 1919



Supports families who have a child with autism by providing a variety of  
supportive services and events. All groups/events are held at:

**The Pentecostal Church, Crab Lane, Biggleswade  
Beds SG18 0LN**

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

Telephone: 07425 551110

Email: [theavenuesupport@outlook.com](mailto:theavenuesupport@outlook.com)

Follow 'The Avenue Support' on Facebook or on Twitter: @TheAvenueAS



This is an independent charity providing Information & advice Monday –Friday.  
A bi-monthly newsletter, Pathway is sent to members and professional organisations in the county.

Helpline: 01234 350704

Email: [enquiries@autismbeds.org](mailto:enquiries@autismbeds.org)

[www.autismbeds.org](http://www.autismbeds.org)



SNAP is a pro-active group of parents who all have children or young people with additional needs or disabilities.  
SNAP's purpose is to improve the services that are provided to children & young people who are living in Central  
Bedfordshire.

Education Health Care Plan workshop for parent carers 10am – 12pm on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Parkside Hall,  
Amphill MK45 2HX

Contact Kirsty Green Mobile: 07805 002163

Email: [Talk2us@snapcentralbeds.org.uk](mailto:Talk2us@snapcentralbeds.org.uk)

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

## Local Offer

The Local Offer is published as part of the Special Education Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Reforms under the Children & Families Act 2014.

### The Local Offer is for:

- Children & young people with SEND from birth to 25 years
- Parents & carers
- Practitioners and professionals

### How will it help?

- Find out what you need to know more easily
- Be less dependent on other people or word of mouth
- Find the nearest & most suitable services
- Ask the right questions
- Provide feedback about what is needed, raise concern, suggest a service improvement or make a complaint

[www.centralbedfordshirecouncil.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.centralbedfordshirecouncil.gov.uk/localoffer)

## News

### Participation Officer

We have secured funding From the Council for Disabled Children to recruit a SEND Participation Officer who will be available to meet, advise, inform and support young people aged 16-25 years in connection with the provision of an EHCNA or the conversion of an Educational Statement of Needs to an EHCP.

This is a new opportunity for CBC SEND PYPPS to increase awareness and promote the service in schools, colleges and universities through social media, youth support and other agencies. The role will be to advise, inform and support young people in education or training. The successful candidate will be working with an established team to ensure the best outcomes for young people.

Young People, parents and carers can contact us directly for support and information – see below.

## Further Information

Central Bedfordshire Council SEND PYPPS Special Educational Needs & Disability Parent & Young Person Partnership Service

### The team:

Angela Davey  
Wanda Chappell  
Corrina Durcan

There are many ways to get in contact with CBCSENDPYPPS:



0300 300 8088



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[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership)



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