

Newsletter - Spring 2017

...providing Information, advice and support in Central Bedfordshire



Welcome to 2017 and we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year. We have a full newsletter with information, advice and support for professionals, parents/carers, children and young people.

New email address

We have a new email address and would be grateful if you could update your records:
cbcsendpypps@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Emails sent to our previous Parent Partnership address will be redirected to the above.

New member of staff

Emily Claydon was appointed as Youth Participation Officer in September 2016 and has already engaged with young people, schools and colleges. This is a new role and Emily is available to meet, advise, inform and support young people aged 16-25 in connection with the provision of an Education Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) or the conversion of an Education Statement of Special Educational Needs to an EHCP.

Emily joins Angela Davey, Wanda Chappell and Corrina Durcan and her role will enable the team to develop young people's engagement in the EHCNA process and to signpost to support and shared services in an education setting. Emily brings a wealth of knowledge and experience having previously worked with and mentored young people in an educational setting.

CBC SEND PYPPS provide free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support to parents/carers, children and young people. If you are a young person in sixth form, college or further education, please contact

Emily or a member of the team on 0300 300 8088.

Information for SENCos

EHCNA requests

When identifying a child or young persons educational need and/or considering a request for an Educational, Health, Care and Needs Assessment (EHCNA) there is a lot to consider before submitting a request. We are more than happy to talk things through with parents/carers and you as SENCos and go through any paperwork and questions about how to use the existing evidence to put together the best request possible. We can advise about processes, timescales and the legal right of appeal.

We are trying to make links with parents as early as we can so that they can be prepared and well informed about processes around SEND. If you know there is likelihood that you will be requesting an EHCNA for a child, could you please put the parent in touch with us or give them one of our leaflets so we can provide the earliest support possible for them? In doing this we could hopefully 'lighten your load' too, whether this is supporting with the parental sections of a SEND Support Plan or just talking parents through the process for you.

We would also be grateful if you could add/update the link to us on your school website so that more parents/carers and young people can read about how we provide support:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership

School coffee mornings and workshops for parents/carers

We have recently been asked to attend coffee mornings and workshops at schools for parents/carers of children with SEND. These have proven to be beneficial for all parties.

Let us know if you have a coffee morning coming up and we will be happy to come along with resources and provide information, advice and support.

Drop in sessions at sixth form and college

As part of Emily's new Youth Participation Role, she has started student drop in sessions at schools, sixth forms and colleges.

The drop in sessions happen once a term and are open to young people aged 14 and above; these sessions offer a chance for young people to prepare for adulthood, make decisions about their future education or training and have their voice heard.


If you feel like it would be useful to give young people in education a chance to speak to Emily and get some impartial advice and support about their SEND, you can get in touch with her directly:

Emily Claydon

Youth Participation Officer

Email: emily.claydon@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: 0300 300 4896



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
- EHC Needs Assessment for Young People aged 16-25
- Annual reviews
- Getting the most out of meetings
- Personal budgets
- Transition Journal (16-25 year old) **NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE NOW**

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



Feedback online

We would really appreciate feedback from you on the SEND Parent & Young Person Partnership Service that we provide, both good and bad so we can make improvements.

Please note we are a FREE impartial, confidential service and we are a separate service to the **CBC SEND Support Team**.

You can complete an anonymous online questionnaire which can be found within the link 'Related Information' at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership a form is also available as a PDF/word document which can be emailed to you.

We do not share or disclose personal data without permission. When supporting parents/carers, children and young people, we will always request your signed consent to allow us to access information on your behalf.

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 SEND. 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 a volunteer, 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 (EHCNA) and those who are transitioning over to the new Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Our supporter has received specific training for this role. You can also access an Independent Supporter via Core Assets.

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 parents/carers 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 EHCNA process and the transfer from Statements 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.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership
www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-service

Email support

cbcsendpypps@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
ISreferrals@coreassets.com

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.

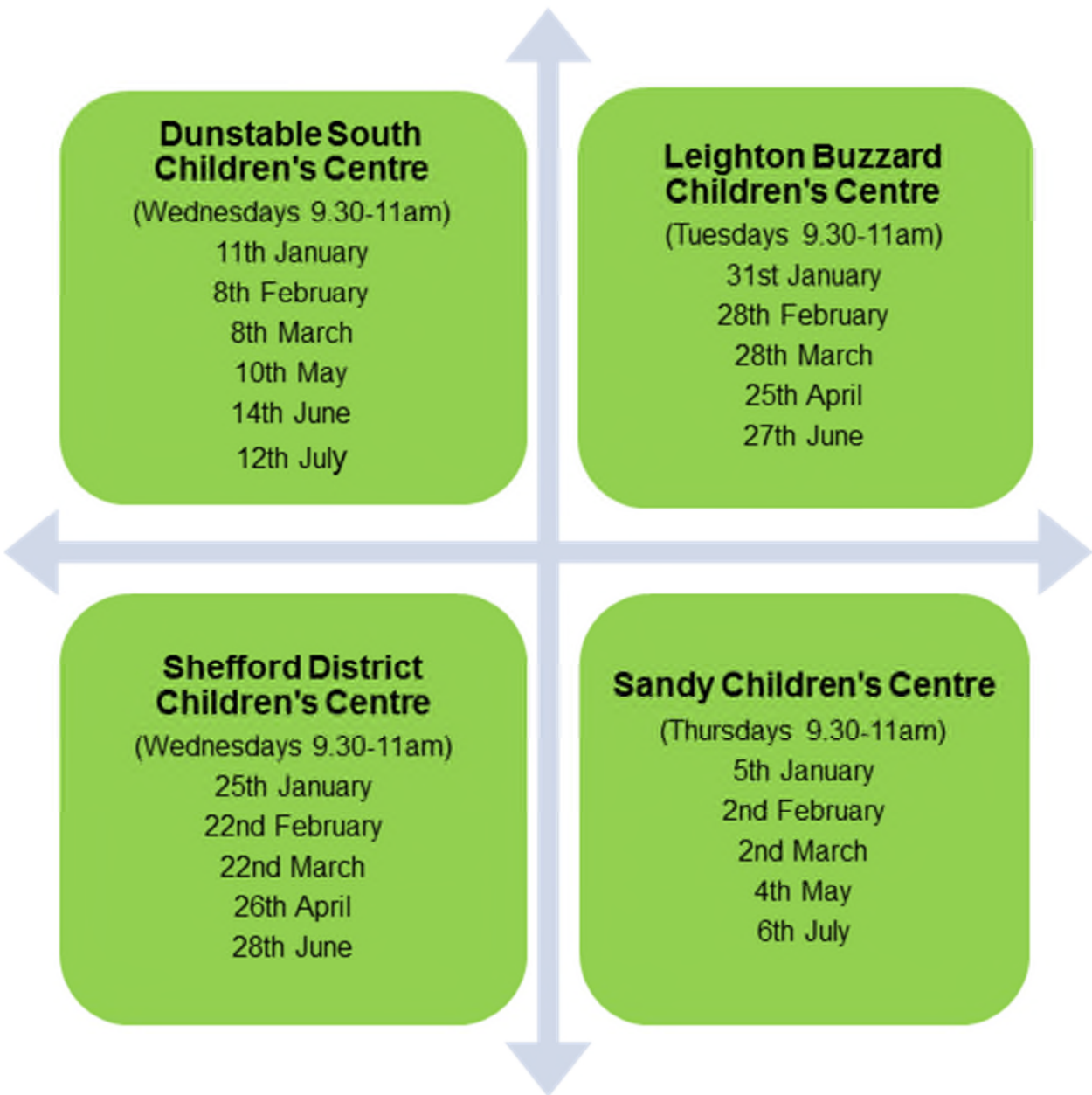


✂...Cut out & keep

Drop in sessions

We hold FREE, monthly drop in sessions for parents/carers, children and young people regarding SEND in an educational setting in Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Shefford and Sandy. 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 the flyers in schools and on our website:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership



✂...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...

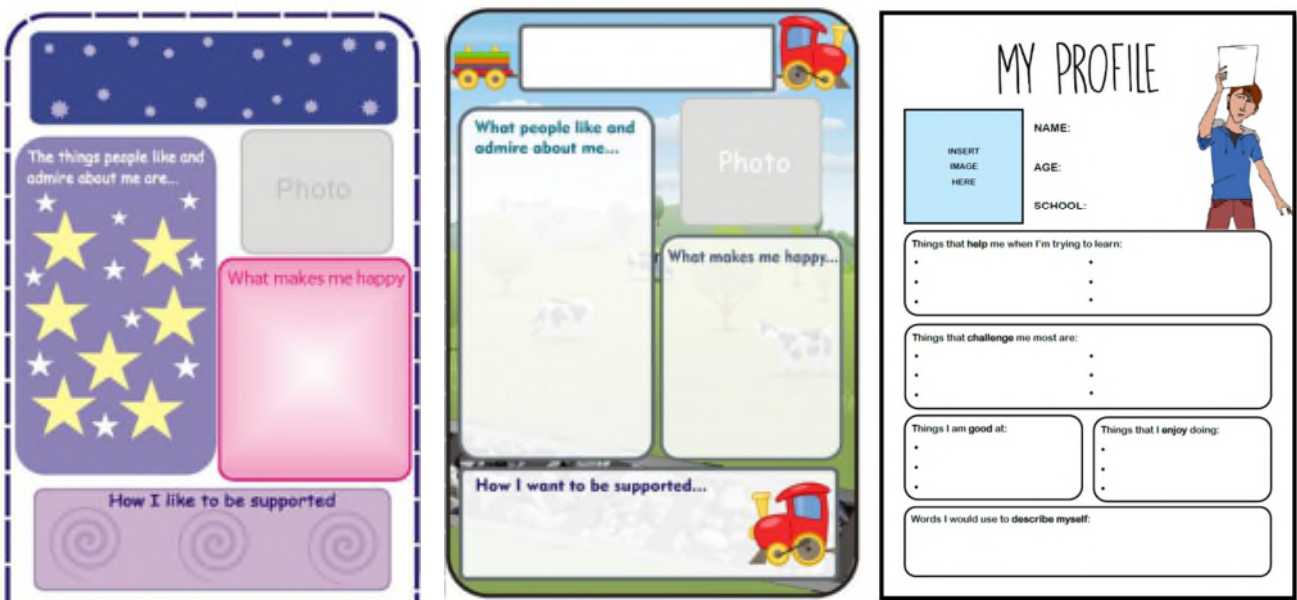
What do other people like and admire about the person? Having positives recorded is important

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.



Useful support contacts

	<p>Chattertots 3 week Speech and Language Group (18 Months – 3 Years)</p> <p>You & Me, Mum 10 week Programme for Mothers, Supporting Children and Young People who have lived with Domestic Violence</p> <p>Parent Puzzle 10 week Programme on How to get the best out of Family Life</p> <p>Baby Daze 6 week Course on Supporting Parents with the arrival of their new baby (0-6 months)</p> <p>Henry Health, Exercise and Nutrition for the Young</p> <p>Working Saturday Stay and Play Session</p> <p>Parents Group For more information Tel: 01462 730623</p>		
	<p>The Avenue in Biggleswade offers supportive services to families who have a child with autism. Services include 3 support groups a month (CHILDREN welcome), workshops, children’s holiday groups, home visits, carer and taxi tokens, information and advice.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="501 987 1513 1496"> <tr> <td data-bbox="501 987 1002 1496"> <p>Support Groups (Held at The Pentecostal Church, Biggleswade)</p> <p>1st Friday of every month 9.30 am to 11.30 am</p> <p>3rd Tuesday of every month 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm</p> <p>4th Monday of every month 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm</p> <p>Excluding Bank holidays. If support groups fall in school holidays the groups change to holiday groups for the children.</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1002 987 1513 1496"> <p>2017 Parent/Carer Workshops</p> <p>Understanding Autism</p> <p>Sensory Needs</p> <p>Social Skills</p> <p>Managing Anger</p> <p>1-2-3 Magic</p> <p>Dates and further workshops to be announced.</p> <p>Register your interest by emailing: theavenuesupport@outlook.com</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>Please visit: www.theavenuesupport.co.uk for further information about all The Avenue’s services</p>	<p>Support Groups (Held at The Pentecostal Church, Biggleswade)</p> <p>1st Friday of every month 9.30 am to 11.30 am</p> <p>3rd Tuesday of every month 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm</p> <p>4th Monday of every month 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm</p> <p>Excluding Bank holidays. If support groups fall in school holidays the groups change to holiday groups for the children.</p>	<p>2017 Parent/Carer Workshops</p> <p>Understanding Autism</p> <p>Sensory Needs</p> <p>Social Skills</p> <p>Managing Anger</p> <p>1-2-3 Magic</p> <p>Dates and further workshops to be announced.</p> <p>Register your interest by emailing: theavenuesupport@outlook.com</p>
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	<p>Youth Club - Monday night (term time only) 6.30pm – 8.30pm</p> <p>For young people aged from 10 to 17 years with additional needs/ disabilities</p> <p>We have a range of activities on offer every week, including computer games, arts & crafts, drama sessions & much more.</p> <p>Saturday Club - 10am-4pm</p> <p>Full support is provided to allow the young people to attend the club without their family carers.</p> <p>This is a great opportunity for young people to make and maintain friendships, improve confidence and increase self-esteem.</p> <p>Britannia Trading Estate, Unit 5, Leagrave Road, Luton, Beds LU3 1RJ</p> <p>For more information look on our website: www.familiesunitednetwork.org.uk Tel: 01582 420800</p>
	<p>Parents Together</p> <p>Do you care for a child who has a disability or additional needs?</p> <p>Monthly drop-in for parents/carers on Thursdays 10am – 12pm</p> <p>The Hub, Ivel Valley School The Baulk, Biggleswade SG18 0PT</p> <p>Free refreshments, information, advice & support, an opportunity to meet other parents/carers, bite size training, pampering and relaxation therapy.</p> <p>Darran Tel: 0300 111 1919</p>
	<p>This is an independent charity providing Information & advice Monday – Friday.</p> <p>A bi-monthly newsletter, 'Pathway', is sent to members and professional organisations in the county.</p> <p>Tel: 01234 350704 enquiries@autismbeds.org www.autismbeds.org</p>
	<p>SNAP Parent Carer Forum will be holding another Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) workshop in the north of the county in February. In March we will also run a workshop inviting a Speech and Language Therapist and an Augmentative and Alternative Communication therapist to advise parent carers of children and young people (0-25 years) about their service, they will also be able to give 'top tips' in how to support your child's communication needs. For information regarding the workshops or alternatively contact our Participation Manager , Kirsty Green:</p> <p>kirsty@snappcf.org.uk or M: 07805 002163</p>





Groundwork Luton & Bedfordshire is the commissioned service delivering evening youth provision across the whole of Central Bedfordshire. We also deliver a busy youth café and youth action programme in Houghton Regis. Each youth centre is a free, fun and vibrant area for 12 – 18 year olds to access a variety of different activities including some targeted support around key issues such as mental health, sex education and relationships.

For more information please visit the Groundwork website at: <http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/east/pages/youth-clubs-herts-beds-and-camb>

Groundwork also provides 1 to 1 mentoring to 10-18 year olds across the whole of Central Bedfordshire. The mentoring project is for those who have low to medium needs, including issues with attainment, behaviour and attendance at school. They are supported by an experienced volunteer mentor over a 12 week period to help improve in these areas.

If you would like further information about any of the projects led by Groundwork Luton & Bedfordshire please contact Youth Manager, Diana Hedley:

diana.hedley@groundwork.org.uk or M: 07736 132295

For a full list of support groups, useful contacts and events, visit our Facebook and Twitter pages

SEND FAQs

<p>If my child doesn't have an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), how do the changes affect my family?</p>	<p>At the heart of the reforms is a new way of working for all children and young people with SEND. Everyone working with your child will focus on life 'outcomes' rather than provision. So rather than saying 'this person has this condition so needs this support', professionals should be saying 'this person would like to achieve this, how can we work together to get there?'</p>
<p>What has changed for schools, colleges and educational settings since the reforms in 2014?</p>	<p>Schools will continue to work with children and young people with SEND to help them reach their full potential. They will now be required to work more closely with parents/carers, publish a report about how they support children and young people with SEND and will no longer be using School Action or School Action Plus. Schools also have an increased responsibility for identifying SEND.</p>
<p>What has happened with School Action and School Action Plus?</p>	<p>School Action and School Action Plus are being replaced by the Graduated Approach (also known as SEND Support). The Graduated Approach consists of a cycle of action – Assess, Plan, Do, Review. After assessment, if a school decides to provide a pupil with SEND support parents/carers must be formally notified. Schools should talk to parents/carers regularly (at least three times a year) to set clear outcomes and review progress towards them.</p>
<p>How can we make use of the Local Offer?</p>	<p>The Local Offer can help families to find out about services and plan what support they would like to access. Not everything on the Local Offer will be available to all people. Parents/carers, young people and professionals may all wish to use the Local Offer to help inform the best support available to meet the needs. <i>Information on Central Bedfordshire's Local Offer is on the last page of the newsletter.</i></p>
<p>Will all children/young people with extra support require an EHCP?</p>	<p>Only a small number of children or young people with SEND will require an EHCP. Most children or young people should receive their educational support from their school or educational setting, from specific funds allocated to them. If the child or young person's need is not related to their education they will not need an EHCP. You will still be able to apply directly to Social Care and Health services where an EHCP is not needed.</p>

What is Central Bedfordshire's 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/children/sen-disability

You can now follow us on social media via Facebook and Twitter for news, events and resources.

CBCSENDPYPPS



@SENDPartnership



Further Information

Central Bedfordshire Council Special Education Needs & Disability Parent & Young Person Partnership Service (CBC SEND PYPPS)

The team:

Angela Davey
Wanda Chappell
Emily Claydon
Corrina Durcan

There are many ways to get in contact with us:



0300 300 8088



cbcsendpypps@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/parentpartnership



CBCSENDPYPPS



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