



SPECIAL NEEDS ACTION PANEL
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

The role of SNAP the Parent Carer Forum for Central Bedfordshire

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Why am I here?



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- To inform you what a Parent Carer Forum is
- What our objectives are
- How we are set up
- Co-production
- How we work with the Local Authority

Why do we have a Parent Carer Forum?



The Children and Families Act, became law in September 2014

- SEND system extended from birth to 25, giving children, young people and their parents greater control and choice in decision making.
- Local Authorities must now work with families and co-produce services
- Funded by Contact a Family via The Department for Education SNAP are also funded by Central Bedfordshire Council

We work with [The National Network of Parent Carer Forums \(NNPCF\)](#) who is made up of all of the parent carer forums from across England , they work closely with the Department for Education, the Department of Health, and other partner organisations to improve outcomes for children and young people with disabilities or additional needs and their families.



What is parent carer participation?

- a group of parent carers of children with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities, who work in partnership with local authorities, education, health, social care and other providers
- to make sure the services they commission, plan and deliver meet the needs of these families



What do we want to achieve?



- To be the strategic, consultative and collaborative body within Central Bedfordshire representing families of children with special educational needs and disabilities, providing a liaison point for Statutory and Voluntary Agencies within Central Bedfordshire.
- To work co-operatively with local service providers and commissioners to enhance and develop the range and quality of services provided for all children in Central Bedfordshire with special educational needs and disabilities.
- To consult with, inform and train our membership in order to be an independent, parent carer-led body that determines and acts upon the priorities of its members.

What is co-production?



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Co-production is central to the process of growing the core economy (family, neighborhood, community & civil society).

It goes beyond service user involvement to foster the principle of equal partnership, putting an end to 'them and us'.

Instead people pool different types of knowledge and skills based on lived experiences and professional learning.

What is SNAP's definition of co-production?



Co-production happens when service providers recognise the benefits of working in true partnership with other practitioners and service users. They adopt this process 'from the start', when planning, developing, implementing or reviewing a service. It means that all the right people are around the table right from the beginning of an idea, and that they are involved equally to:

- Shape, design, develop, implement, and review services.
- Make recommendations, plans, actions, and develop materials.
- Work together right from the start of the process, through to the end.

It should be noted that consultation is not the same as co-production. A stage of consultation can be part of an overall co-production process. It usually occurs after the early stages of co-production have been completed.



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What we will do

- Share information
- Co-operate
- Consult
- Co-produce
- Agree strategy
- Set the agenda



High quality
cost effective
services that
meet the
needs of
young people
and their
families

Project Workstreams



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1. Engagement and involvement of parents/carers in co-production of ways of working and the development of a strategy for SEN that achieves the aims of this project into the future (Led by SNAP - CBC Parent Forum)
2. Engagement and involvement of children and young people (Led by Ken Harvey)
3. Improving outcomes for all (Early Identification, Intervention and Prevention) and Single Assessment Framework and Plan (Led by Claire Harvey)
4. Local Offer (Led by Helen Redding)
5. Transition from childhood to adulthood (Led by Stuart Michelmore)
6. A developed approach to joint commissioning (Led by Ben Pearson/CCG Rep)

Developments to date



- Joint involvement from the start on the Project Board.
- Jointly produced information, guidance and communications.
- Joint delivery of training and briefing sessions.
- Key influence on website development and Local Offer
- SEND Vision and Strategy

- It takes longer.....but it is worth it!

Next Steps



- How do we make co-production common practice?
- Where is co-production working and where are the gaps?
- Influencing universal services as well as specialist services.
- Finalising the SEND vision and strategy, and implementing it!
- Preparing for SEND Inspection.

Any Questions?

