



**SHOUT
OUT
FOR
SEND**



ShoutOutforSEND@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

September - Reps meeting

Today's main topic



- Learn about the SEND Strategy and our work on it, sharing our thoughts on the impact

and

- Prepare for our next meeting, called the **Shout Out for SEND x SEND Partnership Board: Priority Setting Meeting**





Shout Out for SEND – September meeting

 **Monday 29 September 2025**

 **5:30 to 7:30pm**

 **Risborough Family Centre, HP27 9HY**

Reps: Ryan, Molly, Will, Pippa, Cadence, Iona, Serena, Louise, Joy, Ishaan and Chloe

Staff: Sam, Angel & Krissie

Guests: Michael Jarrett

Food available: Pizza



Welcome, check in, food & news



Icebreaker - 'Emoji Me'



Updates!

CYP Plan, Young Inspectors, Committee, Chloe and Serena presenting to professionals



Strategy update

(With Michael)



Prep meeting in October



What are our priorities?



Decide our guests



Goodbye



Updates



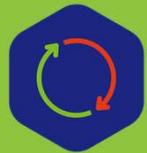
- L, C and Sam ran interviews for a new post... This person will be helping create a new SEND Young Inspectors programme!



- Rob starts tomorrow and is very excited to get started!



- S attended a very big meeting where all councillors in Bucks were there



- C spoke at the SEND Partnership Board

Updates



- L, M and C have created 'What I Wish I knew' videos for young people to watch



- Committee Updates:



- **L** has joined, as our 'Learning Hub Reviewer'
- **P** has joined the 'Professionals Meeting Team'
- **W** would like to help Sam oversee the website in the future



- At the start of meetings, we'd love for you guys to share what you have been up to, and Sam will be in touch

CYP Plan Complete!

Read here to find out more about it:

[Children and Young People's Plan - Complete!](#)

Children and Young People's Plan 2024-25



Action	Tasks	RAG rating	Progress
1. Create a training resource for teachers on autism awareness and inclusive environments, centred on young people's experiences Workstream - Early support & inclusion	Deliver a talk and workshop at September's Inclusion conference on this topic		
	Invite Inclusion advisors to a SOFS meeting to progress the training resource.		
	SOFS Reps shadow the training resource being piloted		
2. Campaign for schools to teach students about SEND in PSHE lessons Workstream - Early support and Inclusion	Research SEND in the PSHE curriculum		
	Invite PSHE Lead (Carol Stottor) to a SOFS meeting to discuss		
	Write open letter to Sec. of State for Education (Bridget Phillipson)		
3. Explore how young people's access to mental health support can be better Workstream - Preparing for Adulthood	Host a SOFS meeting with Head of CAMHS (Andy Fitton)		
	Connect with young researchers who have explored this topic		
	Publicise the findings and inform the health inequality review and mental health action plan		
4. Carry out research on how professionals can support young people in transitioning through different stages of their life Workstream - Preparing for Adulthood	Host a school workshop to gather young people's experiences and ideas		
	Collate stories, tools & resources to support young people		
	Promote good practice		
5. Create a Preparing for Adulthood course Workstream - Preparing for Adulthood	SOFS Reps and Council Officer to develop a timeline and format for sessions		
	SOFS to contribute to course development		
	Launch the course as a pilot		





SEND Strategy Reflections

- The strategy has four 'topics', to help the local area improve how to support young people with SEND
 - Preparing for Adulthood
 - Education
 - High Support Needs
 - Early support and inclusion
- The next slides share our thoughts:



Preparing for Adulthood



- “I think it’s really important, I think about the future a lot and it’s very helpful to have resources out there to help me”
- “Need to share lots of clearer information to young people and their families”
- “It feels cool to be a part of this big picture, helping to give young people the chances they deserve, and the childhood many of us wish we had.”
- “We can find it tricky to find a job. When I apply and interview, it’s everything to me, but I don’t get a call back and it’s heart-breaking.”
- More supported living out there is needed. It’s really tough.
- Employment opportunities are vital and needed.

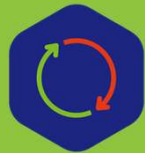
Early Support and Inclusion



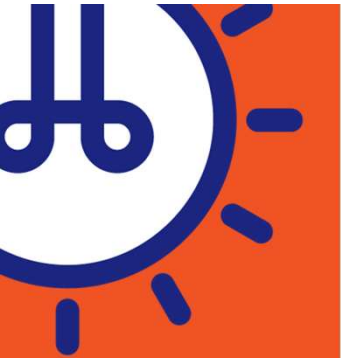
- Healthcare is missing I know I can get disability health nurse, but others don't
- my preschool teacher Wendy was kind and helped me access support and get my EHCP
- when we talk about trauma what is the threshold and what does this mean?
- I've been to six or seven schools including a school renowned for good support but they didn't pick up on anything! It's very important for support to be given right away as if not it can lead to other problems like being out of school
- the moment I got my diagnosis that people gave me lots of support
- early support is life changing
- Show us evidence of what is done and the impact it has
- maybe if my autistic friend had more support with bullying, he could have stayed at school rather than being homeschooled
- it needs to be super clear what the support is and how you access it



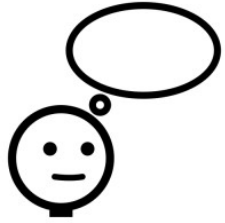
Education



- Accountability:
- doesn't talk about why EHCPs are going up - focus on the stats - we will... what does that look like - the how?
- EHCP coordinators to learn about signposting
- online provision
- More areas of supported internships

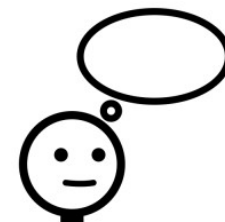


Our wider thoughts



- Not young person friendly do this need an easy read version?
- The involvement of young people was good, but we felt we weren't involved throughout the whole process. Having young people quotes directly from young people is a massive step forward.
- Would have been nice to be included in the whole process, not just parts.
- I feel proud because the strategy will change people's lives - it promotes positive change

Our wider thoughts



Next, I want to change:

- More supported accommodation
- Raising awareness of disability nurses
- A focus on safeguarding for neuro diverse young people
- Tackling negative stereotypes of autism
- Improving education and perceptions of neurodiversity

My dream for SEND inclusion is:

- Awareness of SEND with non-SEND people
- More needs to be done on respecting us as individuals

We dream that:

- Autistic people will feel and be safe by being themselves
- People with send have their basic human rights and have someone to talk to
- We need more jobs and access to jobs for young people with send



Pippa's foreword!

- Pippa wrote an amazing foreword which is the opening words in the strategy, here are our thoughts on this:

- It's amazingly well written
- it's a really good speech pepper is very talented
- I feel like professionals try to talk over us and paraphrase what we are saying but we know what we are trying to say
- Why is the first time we are seeing it when it's been published? If you wanted young people involved we should have been start to finish



Pippa's foreword!

Young Person's Foreword

This strategy has been made with the SEND young people of Buckinghamshire at its heart. *Shout Out for SEND* is a county-run youth project that aims to give SEND young people a voice. In this issue, it's given me an opportunity to write this foreword. But as a group, we also had several meetings focusing on the writing and many of the statements written in the workbooks have come directly from us, in our own words.

Still, when I read this for the first time, I was emotional to see such a strong youth voice expressed. We live in a world that isn't built for those with SEND and many of us work through daily challenges that we feel totally alone in facing. This leads to a lot of us feeling like we do not matter and aren't respected. But the statements are centred around individuals for a reason, because the work you do impacts us directly. Before every statement is a SEND young person's lived experience and it matters. This strategy listens to us, includes us and in turn, respects us as well. It sends a message that Buckinghamshire values its SEND young people in a way I haven't seen or felt before. So, I urge you to continue that message in your work and prove to the SEND young people of Buckinghamshire that we matter. That we have a place in our community. And that when we are given a chance to have a voice, it creates positive change for everyone.



- It would have been nice to give additional feedback
- it's incredible but not set in stone we should do yearly check ins
- we should have been given a preview not a year apart
- Foreword would be written in a different tone now compared to a year ago
- it's great that we had the opening words but maybe we should have had the closing words too



What next?

Sam will take all your feedback on, and share it with colleagues in future meetings

We will create a case study for our website, showcasing all the hard work you put into helping co-produce this big strategy!



Prep for our next meeting!



- At our next meeting we are setting out the priorities for Children and Young People and creating a new Children and Young People's plan.
- The next slides show you more about that meeting, and what we did to prepare for it

Timetable

We went through the timetable of what to expect



Shout Out for SEND – October meeting

Monday 27 October 2025

5:00pm to 7:30pm

Risborough Family Centre, HP27 9HY

Reps: TBC

Staff: Sam, Lucy, Monica & Kelly

Guests: TBC

Food available: ???



Welcome, check in, food & news:

Join us from 5pm



Staff arrive

Introductions and quick icebreaker (5.30pm)



Reps read their bios



Hot seat

Ask staff questions



Movement break

Game, move into groups



What are our priorities?

Discuss and vote on the most important things we can do to make Bucks a better place!



End of session check in

SPB members leave @7:10pm



Goodbye



Choosing our guests

We also worked in groups to decide on which guests should be present, reading their bios and sharing our thoughts.

Our guests we decided on are...



Cllr Ade Osibogun

Cabinet Member for
Education and Children
Services



Dionne Martin

Head of Service for SEND
Sufficiency & Service
Improvement



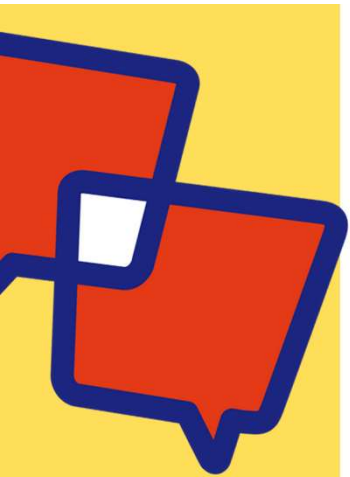
Fiona Barry

Head of Service for Children's
and Young People's Integrated
Therapies





Lucy Jones

Team Leader of
FACT Bucks



What are our priorities?






Public Transport

Exploring how to support young people with SEND access this

Talk about how it can be better in our area




Our idea!



Feedback on the Local Offer

Exploring how to support young people with SEND access this




Our idea!



Shout Out for SEND Professionals Conference

All of us to organise and deliver a conference for professionals, to educate them on issues most important to us!

Our idea!






Policing

Breaking down barriers between the police and young people with SEND

Consider supporting during crisis moments

Our idea!

What are our priorities?






More teacher training videos

Every Rep to create one video on something important to them, that professionals can watch

They are already making an impact!




Our idea!



Working with the NHS

- Train GPs on how best to support SEND patients
- Campaign for more Oliver McGowan Training
- Increase awareness of learning disability nurses




Our idea (with Caroline Hart's help)



SOFS Young Inspectors

As we have Rob joining the team, this will likely be an action locked in already 😊

(Including our idea of helping improve activities out of education)





Supported living

Discuss this topic, and uncover the issues around it to help professionals support us better

Our idea!


What are our priorities?



Short breaks and respite

To explore the support available and develop independence for us and our families



Our idea!



More 'What I Wish I knew' Videos

Every Rep to create one video on something important to them, that young people can watch



Our idea!



Making further education less scary

Explore how to make the move from school to college easier for young people with SEND so they feel supported, not different

Professionals' idea!



Mental Health - Active Waiting

When young people are waiting for support, what things can be done to make it easier?

Professionals' idea!



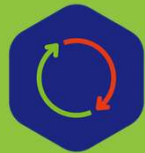
Next meeting

- Next meeting will be on Monday 27 October
- We will be meeting with our guests and creating the new Children and Young People's plan for 2025 onwards!

Thanks for coming!



Extra notes – Our additional thoughts on Day Centre changes/closures



- We met with our Reps outside of our meeting to discuss this following our meeting, following consulting with the Adults' and Health Directorate earlier this year
- Three-day centres are planning to be closed (Hillcrest, Buckingham and Burnham), removing a valuable source of support for adults with disabilities.
- Their thoughts on the next slide

Our thoughts on Day Centre changes/closures



- **Local Support Matters:** Our young people feel it's important that people with high support needs can access services locally, especially as they transition into adulthood.
- **Impact on Young People:** Although day centres are for adults, changes will affect young people in the future – so their voices should be included in decisions.
- **Concerns About Consultation Wording:**
 - Statements like “council-run day centre buildings are underused” may be misleading.
 - Young people believe underuse is partly due to funding cuts since the pandemic, not lack of interest.
 - Some young people in transition haven't even been offered day centre options.
- **Leading Language:** Phrases like “The service will not be best for everyone's needs” (under the option to keep all centres) felt biased and could influence responses unfairly.