



ShoutOutforSEND@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

SOfS September Meeting

CAMHS Active Waiting Update

Back in June, we worked with CAMHS to improve the experience of waiting for mental health support and diagnosis services. We shared ideas about:  Auto-reply emails  Videos and online content  Support while waiting 

Auto-Reply Emails

Biggest update so far!

CAMHS have:

- Reviewed all of our feedback
- Looked at emails used across different teams
- Started creating new email templates based on our ideas
- Asked their participation team to gather parent feedback too

 Next: We'll get to review the draft emails and help decide what works best.

Videos & Online Content

CAMHS have shared our ideas with the teams who manage social media and online content. They agreed there is more work to do around: lived experience content, longer-form information, content about wider CAMHS services

 Next: CAMHS are meeting later this month to decide what happens next.

 Other Ideas

Our wider suggestions are still being reviewed, including; better resources while waiting, clearer information, more personalised support

The big message

The changes won't happen overnight, but it's great to see that CAMHS have already started using our ideas.

They are redesigning their auto-reply emails using feedback from Shout Out for SEND!

 Well done everyone - your ideas are helping shape services in Buckinghamshire.



Shout Out for SEND Annual Reflection

Reps' Meeting:
September 2026



"We don't let them do anything about us without us."

"People have listened and acted and responded, real changes made."

"We've done a lot of SEND inspections and making a real impact so much."

"We achieve amazing things."

"We are a diverse group with different experiences."

"Getting to be me and valued for what I can bring to the table."

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Buckinghamshire Council



Read our updates [here](#)

Read our notes [here](#)



Welcome, check in, food & news

5.30pm



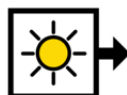
Welcome back!

- Summer catch-up
- Young Inspectors updates
- Recent SOfS highlights



SOFS Rewind

- Why we exist
- What we've achieved
- What's coming up this year



The future of SOFS

- What we're doing well/could be better
- How to get more young people involved
- What would make this our best year yet?



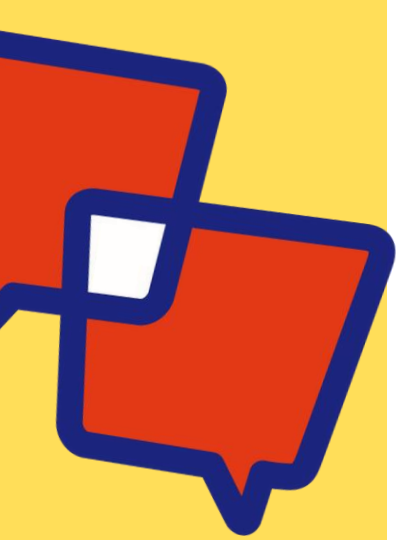
SEND Event

- Hear about our exciting SEND Celebration Event
- Help create our **BELONG** artwork
- Tell us what would make the day amazing



Goodbye

7.30pm

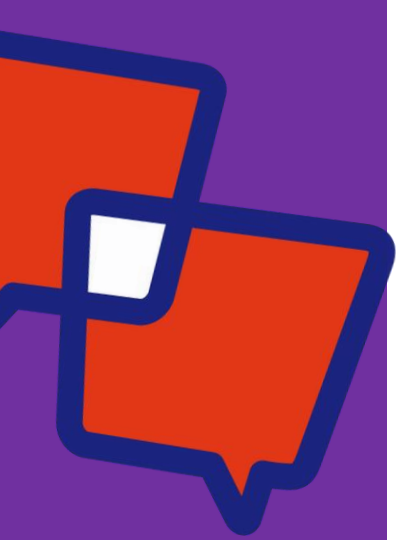


Welcome 😊

Objectives today:

- Looking back on everything we've achieved over the past year
- Reflecting on what has gone well and what could be even better
- Making plans for the year ahead
- Find out about a conference we have been invited to speak and run a workshop at in October





Young Inspectors

- Look at our board, but massive shout out to Louise who has **nailed** the GP Inspection project we did over the summer!
 - Over to Flic 😊:
 - We have some great opportunities to inspect!
 - Haven't locked in you guys yet...
 - You can have a say in some of the activities that suit you (types of **HAF** & Youth Clubs)
- 



Upcoming Young Inspection visits

October

Where - Youth club TBC
When - weekday evening
Time - 2 h max

November

Where - Tring Natural History Museum
When Sunday 8th November
Time 10 - 12am

December

Where - Eden Shopping center
When - Saturday TBC
Time - flexible

Where - HAF offer
When - School half term - TBC
Time - day time (weekday)

Children and Young People's Plan 2026-28



Action	SOFS Tasks	RAG	Professionals Tasks (with action owner)	RAG
Inclusive Education Supporting the council to make mainstream education more inclusive so all children and young people with SEND can succeed in school . ES&I	Host a SOFS meeting with Inclusion Advisors, learning about the council's guidance for schools and providing feedback.	Green	Paula: Update Universal Provision guidance for schools following SOFS feedback	Red
	Strengthen the SOFS learning hub, creating videos on issues important to us.	Yellow	SEND Team: Promote SOFS learning hub resources through school networks	Red
	Create accessible information for young people on their rights in mainstream education.	Green	Paula: Distribute youth voice audit to schools to make sure they are listening and acting on their <u>pupils</u> voices	Yellow
Mental health & Diagnosis Helping improve the experience of waiting for mental health and diagnosis support by co-producing better ' active waiting ' for CAMHS and clear communication for young people and families ES&I	Explore services and resources available for children and young people with SEND who are awaiting diagnosis / support	Green	Andy: Attend SOFS meeting to hear our views, and brainstorming resources to include in communicating to families	Green
	Draft welcome email and automatic reply for young people on waiting lists for SEND diagnoses and mental health support	Yellow	Adam: Co-produce welcome email and automatic reply with SOFS	Yellow
	Review feedback on the emails from young people, parents and carers and come up with recommendations for next steps.	Yellow	CAMHS: Review SOFS' recommendations on 'active waiting' and include them in wider delivery	White
Short breaks and respite Helping more people access short breaks and respite by identifying barriers and sharing best practice with professionals HSN	Meet with professionals who will tell us about short breaks and respite and where we can influence change	Green	Rowenna: Share 'where are we now' on short break provision and gaps	Green
	Run outreach sessions with young people able to access short breaks and respite	Green	Wendy: Attend outreach sessions to hear young people's experiences	Green
	Feedback on what the team found, the options they have for the future and a question for the tender process	Green	Rowenna & Wendy: Come back to SOFS to share findings and include them in the tender process	White
SOFS Young Inspectors Making community spaces and activities more inclusive by inspecting them, giving feedback , and promoting SEND-friendly spaces PfA	Young Inspectors to visit community spaces and assess accessibility	Green	Flic: Lead coordination of inspections, support reps during visits, and compile reports	Green
	Provide feedback to staff on improvements needed	Green	Activity Providers: Act on feedback and share evidence of changes	Green
	Flic to collect feedback on changes implemented and report back to us	Yellow	Flic: Promote inspected spaces by sharing on our website	Green

Children and Young People's Plan 2026-28



Policing Breaking down barriers between young people with SEND and the police by sharing lived experiences and creating inclusive resources ES&I	Meet with TVP to share lived experience and ideas for improvement		YJST Police Officers: Attend meeting with SOfS and share current policies	
	Create flyers and a video promoting SEND inclusive policing and share		Sam & Claire: Support creation and distribution of flyers and video	
	Track evidence of flyers in police stations and feedback on the video		Sam & Claire: Monitor engagement and report back on impact	
Shout Out for SEND Conference Educating professionals on our experiences and sharing our learning, through a youth-led conference with talks, workshops, and pledges for action TBC	Plan the conference in our SOfS meetings and 1:1s with Sam		Sam: Lead planning and logistics, support reps in designing sessions	
	Deliver talks, activities, and workshops with guest professionals to share lived experience and best practice		SEND Partnership Board, SENDIAS & FACT Bucks: Support in the planning of the conference	
	Measure impact through pledges and follow-up action from attendees		BC Communications Team: Handle event promotion and post-event impact reporting	

As part of our plan, we also respond to requests and extra project ideas. Click [here](#) to view our tasks and achievements!

SOfS Rewind

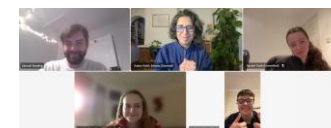
Since 2024:

- **331** young people involved
- **785** professionals reached directly
- **17** organisations and teams worked with (inc., NHS, DfE, CAMHS, Education, Social Care, MPs)
- **8** professionals appointed at interviews
- **18** conference presentations delivered
- **28** Reps' meetings
- **14** workshops delivered
- **7** SEND Young Inspections completed
- **6** reports published



Shout Out for SEND at the Bucks Youth Summit: What Children and Young People said about their experiences at school

March 2026





SofS Rewind 2025-26

- **Launched Buckinghamshire's Children and Young People's Plan (2026-28),**
- **Supported Buckinghamshire's SEND Inspection**
- **Led activities at the Bucks Youth Summit**
- **Set-up our Young Inspectors Programme**
- **Helped review Short Breaks services**
- **Spoken to senior leaders and professionals**
- **Influenced national SEND reforms**
- **Worked with mental health services**
- **Presented to 140 GPs on Annual Health Checks and Accessibility**



Look at the display for more details from recent projects!

Station 1: The Shout Out for SEND Body Map (Krissie)

Help us think about what makes Shout Out for SEND special and where we should go next. Write, draw, doodle or use sticky notes.

Heart

What do you love about Shout Out for SEND? What keeps you coming back?

Brain

What makes a great Shout Out for SEND rep? What should every rep know, do or believe?

Mouth

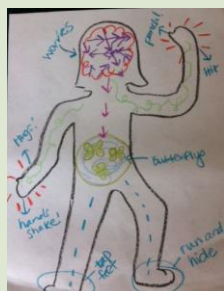
What should we speak up about more? What issues matter most to young people with SEND?

Hands

What are we really good at doing? What impact have we had? What strengths should we build on?

Feet

Where should we go next? What should Shout Out for SEND achieve this year?



Station 2: The Giant SOFs Mind Map (Flic & Angel)

Be honest. Help us grow as a team!

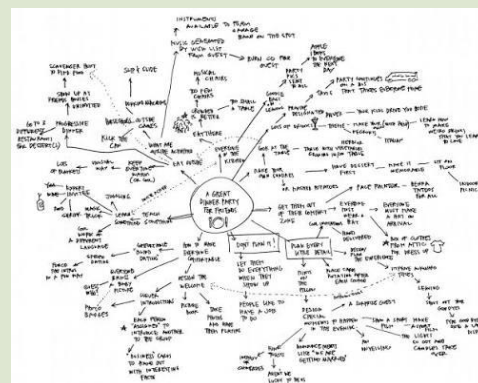
 **What's working really well?**

 **What's not working so well?**

 **How can we get more young people involved?**

 **How can we make new people feel welcome?**

 **What's missing from Shout Out for SEND?**



Station 3: Best Year Yet (Sam)

Imagine it's Summer 2027...

What would make you say:

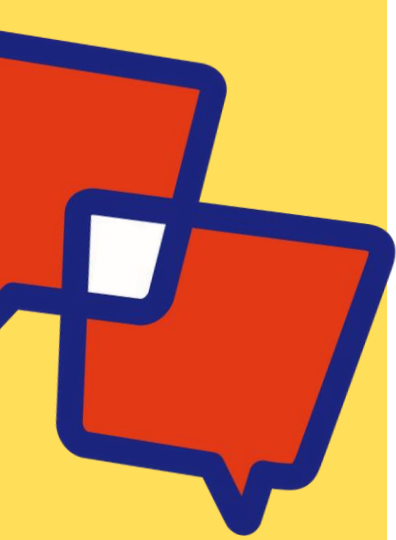
"This has been our best year yet?"

Think about:

- Projects we've completed
- Changes we've helped make
- New members we've reached
- Partnerships we've built
- Opportunities we've created
- Goals from our Children and Young People's Plan

Write down as much as possible!





SEND Celebration Event

On Tue 20 October, Buckinghamshire Council and the Parent Carer Forum are hosting a SEND Celebration Event.

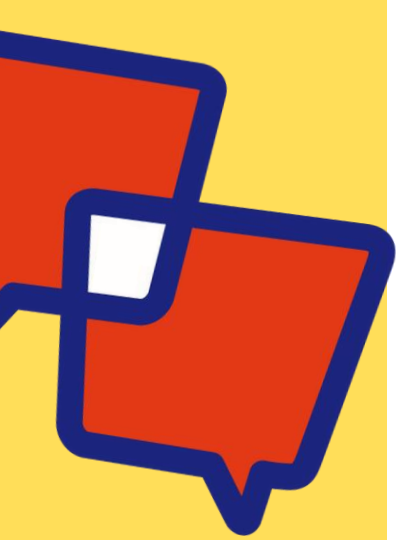
People attending will include:

- 🏫 School staff, headteachers and SENDCOs
- 🏥 Health professionals
- 📋 Professionals involved in EHCPs and SEND services
- 🏛️ Buckinghamshire Council staff and leaders
- 🤝 Members of the Buckinghamshire SEND Partnership

Shout Out for SEND has been invited to run a **one-hour workshop**.

This is a fantastic opportunity to:

- Share our experiences and ideas
 - Help professionals understand what matters to young people with SEND
 - Celebrate the achievements of young people with SEND
 - Influence the people who make decisions about services and support
- 



SEND Celebration Event

BELONG Conference Activity

What does BELONG mean to you? Help us create artwork for our conference by decorating the letters and sharing your ideas.

Think about:

- What helps people feel they belong?
- What stops people feeling they belong?
- What do professionals need to understand?
- What would a more inclusive world look like?
- How should people feel when they leave the conference?





Upcoming dates

- Monday 19 October – Reps meeting
 - Tuesday 20 October – SEND Celebration Event @ The Gateway:
 - Iona, Pippa, Emily, Louise and Ishaan are all up for working on it. Sam will be in touch!
 - SEND Partnership Board Presentation (Thursday 24 September @2pm online):
 - Anyone want to present what we've been up to with me?
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Thanks for coming!