



Terms of reference

Purpose

Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum aims to be a voice to inform service providers of the needs of disabled children/young person and their families.

It will facilitate two-way communication between parent carers and services used by disabled children/young people and their families in Bedford Borough. The forum will work as a critical friend to provide feedback on services, offer constructive challenge to current services and input into decision making and planning for future service provision.

The parent forum believes that by working co-operatively with local service providers parents can co-produce improvements in the services delivered for disabled children/young person:

- Through regular communication with parent/carers', ensuring they are able to decide whether to be involved in a piece of work/consultation.
- Ensuring a diverse forum membership and representation of diverse views from disabled children/young person and parent/carers' from all backgrounds and sectors of the community.
- Promoting a reputation and image of the Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum which reflects its aims and values.

Vision

Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum's vision is for all services that are provided for children with SEN and disabilities are child, young person and family centred. We believe that service providers should aspire for excellence and that all services provided are underpinned by the Early Support 10 principles:

- **Valued Uniqueness**
 - The uniqueness of children, young people and families is valued and provided for.
- **Planning Partnerships**
 - An integrated assessment, planning and review process is provided in partnership with children, young people and families.
- **Key Working**
 - Service delivery is holistic, co-ordinated, seamless and supported by key working.

Formally adopted by the Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum Steering Committee
via email in July 2023



- **Birth to Adulthood**
 - Continuity of care is maintained through different stages of a child's life and through preparation for adulthood.
- **Learning & Development**
 - Children and young people's learning and development is monitored and promoted.
- **Informed Choices**
 - Children, young people and families are able to make informed choices.
- **Ordinary Lives**
 - Children, young people and families are able to live 'ordinary lives'.
- **Participation**
 - Children, young people and families are involved in shaping, developing and evaluating the services they use.
- **Working Together**
 - Multi-agency working practices and systems are integrated.
- **Workforce Development**
 - Children, young people and families can be confident the people working with them have appropriate training, skills, knowledge and experience.

<http://www.ncb.org.uk/early-support/about-early-support/10-principles>