



**SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM**  
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

### **Feedback from the questions our members asked us to put to Central Bedfordshire Council**

Thank you to all of the parents who contacted us with questions to ask Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC). We have worked with CBC on these questions, they are now posted on the Local Offer website. You can find the questions and answers [here](#).

Please keep sending in your experiences to [admin@snappcf.org.uk](mailto:admin@snappcf.org.uk) as we need to continue to understand the issues affecting families during Covid-19. We would also like to know when good practice happens so we can promote this too. We are meeting virtually with Sue Harrison, Director of Children's Services, on a frequent basis which gives us the opportunity to update CBC on the challenges and issues our members are experiencing.

### **Can you please help us with the following questions?**

We have received feedback from parents whose children attend Weatherfield Academy and The Chiltern School and some of the mainstream schools. It would be helpful to receive more feedback from parents about the schools their children attend to give us a clear picture of how your family are being supported.

Also, if you have a Social Worker or access the Early Help Team can you please get in touch by emailing [admin@snappcf.org.uk](mailto:admin@snappcf.org.uk). Some parents have told us they have had no contact with their Social Worker since COVID-19 which is concerning, some parents have said they have felt totally abandoned, a few have reported positive experiences. Please let us know all of your experience so we can look at the emerging themes and put these to CBC for an answer.

### **Central Bedfordshire Council updated**

Central Bedfordshire Children's Overview and Scrutiny Meeting in May has now been cancelled which was due to discuss the OFSTED/CQC [Written Statement of Action](#) (WSOA). SNAP PCF had been asked to present at this board and are hopeful the new date for this will be September. The statement by CBC can be found [here](#)

### **Update**

Central Bedfordshire Council have issued a statement about how the COVID - 19 Crisis will impact on their services which you can find [here](#)

# Information



On the 19th of April the Government updated their information on supporting vulnerable children and young people during the COVID-19 crisis which you can find [here](#)

*Vulnerable children and young people are defined as those who are assessed as:*

- *who are a looked after child have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) whose needs cannot be met safely in the home environment*
- *have been assessed as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who are therefore in need of continued education provision*

## **Local support**

If you need additional support Central Bedfordshire Council website has a [online form](#) to complete or a number to call 0300 300 8900 they can help with access to food, medicine or essential supplies.

**SNAP PCF are continuing to work to ensure we give our members as much helpful information as we can to ensure parents are kept informed during the COVID-19 crisis.**

## **Disabled Children: a legal handbook**

Disabled Children: a legal handbook, is an accessible guide to the legal rights of disabled children and their families in England. There are twelve chapters within the handbook on topics including: education; health; children's services; transition into adulthood; housing; carers and welfare benefits.

The legal handbook explains what public bodies must do to support disabled children and that which they should do. The handbook aims to empower disabled children and their families through providing a greater understanding of their rights and entitlements. You can find a copy [here](#).



## We have brought information cards for our members



### What is the Sunflower lanyard scheme?

Not all disabilities are visible – such as learning difficulties, mental health as well as mobility, speech, visual or hearing impairments. Living with a hidden disability can make daily life more demanding and it can be difficult for others to recognise the challenges you face.

Be visible when you want to be by wearing the lanyard or carrying the card discreetly indicates to people around you that you may need additional support.

### SNAP PCF Members Offer

Previously we had purchased the Sunflower Lanyards for our members to use in their local community. Since the COVID-19 crisis the government updated their advice for families taking exercise.

*"15. Can I exercise more than once a day if I need to due to a significant health condition? You can leave your home for medical need. If you (or a person in your care) have a specific health condition that requires you to leave the home to maintain your health - including if that involves travel beyond your local area - then you can do so. This could, for example, include where individuals with learning disabilities or autism require specific exercise in an open space two or three times each day - ideally in line with a care plan agreed with a medical professional. Even in such cases, in order to reduce the spread of infection and protect those exercising, travel outside of the home should be limited, as close to your local area as possible, and you should remain at least 2 metres apart from anyone who is not a member of your household or a carer at all times.*

*we wanted to find a way to support families who were worried if they were challenged whilst taking extra exercise with their child "*

Parents have contacted SNAP PCF to say they are worried if they take any additional exercise they may be challenged for doing so. The Sunflower Lanyard Scheme has produced a card you can either attach to the lanyard or keep in your pocket whilst out of your home.

***The cards will be given to our members on a first come, first served basis. If you would like a card please email [admin@snappcf.org.uk](mailto:admin@snappcf.org.uk) and we will pop one in the post. If you also need a lanyard we have a few left so please ask for this in your email.***

Front of the card

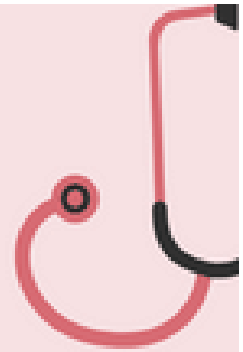


Lanyard



Back of the card





**SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM**  
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

# **MEDICATION QUESTION**

**IS YOUR CHILD PRESCRIBED  
MEDICATION FROM EITHER THE  
CDC, EDWIN LOBO CENTRE OR  
CAMH?**

**If you are having difficulty  
receiving your prescription please  
get in touch.**

**SNAP PCF are working with  
Bedfordshire Clinical  
Commissioning Group to identify  
any gaps in service.**

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE PARENTS  
PLEASE EMAIL [ADMIN@SNAPPCF.ORG.UK](mailto:ADMIN@SNAPPCF.ORG.UK)  
OR, PRIVATE MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK  
[HTTP://WWW.SNAPPCF.ORG.UK/](http://WWW.SNAPPCF.ORG.UK/)**