



## **SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM**

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

### **SNAP Parent Carer Forum update**

We wanted to give parents an update of the work we have been doing with Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) and the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG).

We are now having monthly meetings with Sue Harrison Director of Children's Services and weekly meetings with Sarah Ferguson Deputy Director of Children's Services. These meetings will help to ensure the parents view being fed in at a senior level and gives us the opportunity to raise any concerns.

On Monday the 27th of July Kirsty Green, Director of SNAP PCF met with Sue Harrison and raised the following:

- There is a need to map out the process specifically for children who come under the children with disability team and live in a residential placement out of county. I suggested we did a workshop to carry out a review. This has been agreed.
- Sue Harrison has said all the EHCP's will be independently checked by a team of experts to discover the true picture of the quality of EHC Plans. This will enable a benchmark to be set so improvements can be tracked overtime. SNAP PCF have asked that parents who have a poorly written plan will be contacted and their EHCP co-produced with parents and re written. This has been agreed.
- We have asked that the SEND Team receive training from IPSEA as they are recognised by parents as delivering high quality training. SNAP PCF members have already received training from IPSEA and if the Local Authority also receive training from them then this will help to build confidence. Sue Harrison was able to confirm the team are receiving IPSEA training.

- It had been suggested a plan to develop parent training from the SEND Service and SENDIASS for parent/careers that will go live on Local Offer from September 2020. SNAP PCF have asked that SENDIASS continue to remain an arm's length service and do not deliver parent training with the SEND Team as there could be a potential conflict of interest. Also, parents are consistently reporting a good service from SENDIASS and parent confidence is high with this team therefore, if they want to offer parent training, SENDIASS should do this independently of CBC. This has been agreed.
- We have asked that SNAP PCF holds a Parent Panel to review the Written Statement of Action in August. This has been agreed and the Parent Panels are now fully booked.

There is a lot of work to do to improve the services parents receive and to increase parents' confidence. SNAP Parent Carer Forum will continue to feed in the collective parent's experiences into our meetings with Central Bedfordshire Council and the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

We hope you can see from this update we are working hard behind the scenes. Our members have confidence in our forum and know we are passionate in working as a partnership to make the improvements needed for our families.

Please keep in touch and let us know what is working and what is not working. We will have a parent survey to publish in the autumn term, we want to gather the views about the services parents receive and then track the improvements whilst the Written Statement of Action is in place.

When OFSTED and the CQC carry out a revisit, we can then ask parents to complete the survey again and write a report to give the inspectors. We hope you will support us by completing this survey.

Best wishes

*Kirsty*

Kirsty Green  
Director  
SNAP Parent Carer Forum (SNAP PCF)

