



Updates/Review

Parent Carer Forums

Paragraph 1.13 SEND code of practice:

“Parent Carer Forums are representative local groups of parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities who work alongside local authorities, education, health and other service providers to ensure the services they plan, commission, deliver and monitor meet the needs of children and families”

What we say we do



Core Principles of Forums

- ▶ Pan Disability
- ▶ Work across Education, Health and Social Care
- ▶ Solution Focused
- ▶ Collaborative
- ▶ Experience led

Forums are not;

- ▶ Support groups
- ▶ Advice providers
- ▶ Campaigning organisations



What does that mean in reality for Forums?

- ▶ Listening to families about their experiences - participation sessions / coffee mornings, social media, surveys
- ▶ Creating Opportunities to influence local decision making - conferences, workshops, bringing parent carers and practitioners together
- ▶ Sharing information - newsletters, websites, social media, updates
- ▶ Developing partnerships - building relationships with managers, practitioners, commissioners, voluntary sector
- ▶ Representing parent carers strategically - meetings, meetings and more meetings
- ▶ Contributing to the development, monitoring and review of services - developing services specifications, assessing bids, facilitating feedback

Short breaks: The history, the landscape and recommissioning in Barnet

- ▶ **INFORM** - Presentations about the Short Breaks picture nationally, the service being delivered locally, and how the recommissioning process in Barnet works.
- ▶ **PARTICIPATE** -talk to Barnet parent carers about services via facilitated round table discussion, to hear experiences and discuss what possible actions could improve that experience delivering better outcomes for SEND families locally. (Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Transition and Post 19).
- ▶ **IMPROVE** - Feedback shared with Barnet Commissioners and be used to shape the new Short Breaks offer commencing April 2019.



**Of 30 responses...
% strongly agreed or agreed**

97% felt the event overall was useful

97% felt better informed about short breaks

90% felt the opportunity for feedback helpful;

100% felt they had an opportunity to share their point of view

**All About Me, All About Us;
Person-Centred Approaches**



Parent participation and the person centred approach



Accessing Public Services Toolkit:

A problem-solving approach




UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CEREBRA 
Working wonders for children
with brain conditions



Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group, Health Providers and Barnet Parent Carer Forum

FREE Health Conference – ‘Exploring your local health services’

Meet your health professionals and let's start talking together about what is important for local children and young people with SEND and their families

Date: February 1st 2018 Time: 10am – 2pm

Refreshments from 9.45 – this event will start promptly

Venue: Stephens House and Gardens, Finchley

<http://www.stephenshouseandgardens.com/visit/how-to-get-here>

This conference aims to provide Barnet parent carers with:

- A better understanding of the local health system, including recent changes and the available pathways to care and support
- An opportunity to identify the key professional leads, what services offer and how to access them
- A platform for parent carers to share their views on what is working well in local health services for their children and families and what requires improvement
- An opportunity for the Barnet Parent Carer Forum to participate in a productive dialogue with health professionals to help improve the future of health services in the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Community.

<p>Of 29 responses... % strongly agreed or agreed</p>	<p>Parents said...</p>
<p>100% felt better informed about the local health system and the various pathways to services</p>	<p><i>“There are more services and information to access than I was aware of”</i></p>
<p>93% felt they had an opportunity to identify and meet key health professionals and hear about their services</p>	<p><i>“Open, receptive health professionals helped to break down barriers and preconceived negative beliefs”</i></p>
<p>97% felt they had an opportunity to ask questions</p>	<p><i>“[I feel] less alone by knowing that there are other people also experiencing the same challenges”</i> <i>“Power to the community and getting a voice!”</i></p>
<p>100% felt they had an opportunity to share their point of view</p>	<p><i>“Being able to share our son's story in a safe environment”</i> <i>“So pleased that parent carers have had a voice”</i></p>



Remembering the vision

- To create an informed membership who understand the SEN systems and are aware of the service providers. They are empowered to be involved in decision making and they are clear when and where they need to seek support.
- To enable members to feel that local services are responsive to the needs of their children and families.
- To build a partnership with the Local Authority and other service providers in the spirit of true co-production, so that we can help shape the services for our SEND children ensuring their needs are being met.



Contact Details;

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National Network of Parent Carer Forums

'Our Strength Is Our Shared Experience'