



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE SEND INSPECTION Update 3

Dear FACT Members

Tuesday was another full of focus groups involving FACT representatives on key topics such as Early Identification & Intervention, Outcomes, SENDIAS and Joint Commissioning of support services and short breaks.

In addition, it was also the time for the parent focus groups when those who have been active for FACT Bucks in the last two years and representatives of key parent support groups in the County, had a chance to tell their stories to the Inspectors. These were inspector only sessions and I have had reports from many who attended that they were able to share their lived experiences and that these were heard. I can tell you that the themes which dominated the conversations in the Health focussed group were immediately used to drive the conversation in the afternoon session focussed on the commissioning of those services.

We had 3 aims coming into the inspection:-

1. We would work tirelessly to ensure that as many families in Bucks were aware that the inspection was taking place and how they could express their views to the Inspection team
2. We would engage in every focus group taking place at which we would present the lived experience of parents as expressed to us through all our contacts (especially our most recent survey) alongside our recognition of positive initiatives and our key themes for improvement.
3. We would give the opportunity to the 30 parents who have given time to some aspect of FACT's work over the last 2 years a chance to speak directly to the Inspectors alongside representatives of key support groups who do so much to enable families and promote their concerns.

As we reach the end of our engagement with the Inspection process, I can rest knowing that we did all these things. During the next 2 days some more parents will have the opportunity to speak to the Inspectors as they visit various settings, schools and colleges in the area.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents who gave time today and at other times, to support FACT Bucks. Thanks also to the Steering Group who have all worked very hard especially over the last 10 days to deliver the aspirations above.

On your behalf, I will be present on Friday when OFSTED & CQC offer their reflections to the Local Area. I will not be able to report on the findings until we have been clearance to do so, but we will do so as soon as we are able.

Andrew Howard
Chair, FACT Bucks