

2023 FACT BUCKS SEND SURVEY

FREE TEXT COMMENTS (NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS AND SCHOOLS REMOVED)

2.5 year dispute over placement. Had tribunal scheduled. LA now agreed special school place from Sept 23. They did not acknowledge that her needs weren't met or parental preference. This contracts the send code of practice 0-25yrs.

Action for Children are offering significantly less sessions than we are used to. We should receive 90 hours each year following an assessment, we never get close to 90 hours. What was the point of the assessment. I applied for Direct payments in November 2021, and am still waiting for the final assessment to be completed. The main issue seems to be that the Children with Disabilities team raise the threshold, so many complex children no longer meet the criteria. I have questioned this many times and get nowhere! So frustrating and leaves me feeling hopeless.

After his first assessment for special needs which was a shambles the second assessment ...8 yrs later!!! Diagnosed November 2021 high functioning autism. January 2022 adhd inattentiveness. Discharged by camhs February 2022 with no follow up. This school year my sons mental health is severely affected with all the pressure of gvses and grades have gone from 5 and 6 Yr 7 and Yr 8..dropped again Yr 9 and 10 and this year his.mocks: 2 and 3. Was doing triple science...moved to combined then foundation. Withdrawn from one gcse. Moved down a set in maths. I have been asking support from send team since Yr 7. Because he was at his expected level funding just allowed him to be monitored. Now he has a key worker and is getting 1 to 1 support bits to little too late. He has always struggled with English. And had support all through combined school although this wasn't handed over to senior school. If a child is to succeed with all subjects English is vital. I was told by send lead at the school that even if he had a health and education plan he wouldn't get the support. She has now left and new lady is great but like I say too little too late. I am meeting with the school Wednesday to start process of health and education plan. The system needs to change. I recently enquired with send team at bucks County Council with regards to help with transport to college when my son leaves school and they said he can't get help because he doesn't have a health and education plan even though he has a diagnosis. My son cannot travel on public transport on his own, he can't cope with people or crowds. I am very disappointed with my sons experience and mine.

BCC blocked the Autism assessment. Blocked paediatric psychology services for my daughter. Failed to arrange anything including counselling. They did this illegally, contravening the Autism, care act and several others. No one did anything you evil *****

Been requesting some form of respite since mid 2022 and help to find childcare. Nothing as yet and had to give up work now due to lack of childcare and child's behaviour deteriorating as well as my health going down hill.

Buckinghamshire Council do not care about SEND - the children or the families around them. They are adversarial in any and all encounters and just simply don't care about the distress they cause. Their lack of care or responsibility to my child with SEN is despicable.

Bucks is broken. Social care, occupational therapy, educational psychology etc do not see children or young people in good time. EHCP's are issued without any input from them just so county can meet legal timeframes, this is appalling and leaves the most vulnerable without support. SEN officers change so quickly they don't even get to know you or your child or begin to help them before they change again. Whistle blowers within Bucks social care are unjustly fired. Social care teams are awful, do not provide help and sign children off after a 20 min online interview. Social care within adult mental health is MiLES better, work with the young people and their families at a good pace and are thorough and supportive. Within county they are awful. SEN officers do not bother to attend annual reviews. EHCP's are left in draft form for months following AR. Schools/colleges which say they cannot meet need are names on ehcp regardless of their wishes or the child and families wishes. SEN officers are uneducated about EOTAS and their lawful responsibilities. The resolutions team never come back to you with anything. Free school meals are not provided when your child has to stay home as no provision can meet need despite them being eligible. FACT Bucks do not speak for all parents, do not engage properly with parents and have a tiny membership. They attend meetings and work with the council saying they are speaking for us but it's simply not true. Those of us who question this are routinely left out of things by FACT. The EBSA section on bucks website is horrific and parent blaming, the sections relating to Autism and EBSA are absolutely disgusting and should not be in print. Nothing is shared properly between departments or teams, coproduction doesn't exist. I could go on forever but I think you've got my point.

Bucks LA allocated a wholly inappropriate school. It is down to us, his parents, who had to go through two tribunals in two years that he is now at a school that can meet his needs. He is thriving, learning and re engaged with education. We paid for the reports, and the lawyer. Bucks offered no evidence whatsoever they believed the mainstream school chosen could meet needs. The school the LA chose created a 30 page report saying they couldn't meet needs, Yet Bucks would have sent him there. Despite a million red flags, and stacks of professional reports, saying it would be a disaster, If my child is doing well, it's because of us, and in spite of Bucks LA. I am now doing Ipsea training so I can put my experiences to good use and support other families in Bucks who find themselves in the same horror show.

Bucks like many LAs are too quick to make the decision to Refuse to assess. It comes across that reports on the child are not read or are ignored especially if private. Communication is diabolical with parents being ignored or forgotten about. Many parents struggle to get their kids seen by SaLT and OT, often the phrase 'Not known to service ' is used.

Better training for less experienced teachers in understanding ASD and ADHD would be really helpful to hopefully lessen the amount of Exclusions, illegal and legal occurring. There are schools who won't support EHCP applications and too many fob parents off with lies, blame and gaslighting of parents. There are SENCOs clearly in the wrong job through lack of training in SEN law, there are those who are unsupported by Heads who are penny pinching , there are those who won't listen or ignore parents concerns when these are raised. EHCPs are so badly written they aren't worth the paper it's written on. If the LA stop fighting parents and wasting tax payers money on Tribunals and issue properly and lawfully written EHCPs, there wouldn't be so many being overturned and this money would be better spent. There's not enough SEN schools for secondary school aged children who find mainstream too difficult to attend but too academically able for SEN schools, girls in particular are being very badly let down.

CAHMS is not fit for purpose. Lost details and records and won't helps us despite pleas.

Can I have some info on EOTAS grants please to help fund for online tutor to help my daughter with her homework please.

***** School did not provide any support and worsened my child's mental health significantly

Child has been refused specialist school placement by LA despite mainstream schools stating they can't meet need and specialist school offering a place.

Communication, communication, communication!

Create more meaningful engagement with neurodivergent parents and researchers. EBSA model is deeply flawed and not based on meaningful /participatory research. I strongly believe Bucks will move forward when they see the benefit in cost and outcomes of working with ND professionals and experienced parents. PBS is also not evidence based - there doesn't appear to be anyone keeping up with contemporary research and quality participatory research-I believed problems can still be solved without cost by just listening Neurodivergent researchers and advocates.

Education transfer process is flawed (e.g.primary to secondary).

For my mental health the ECHP process has been the most devastating and stressful thing. I paid privately for my son to be seen by a community paediatrician and got seen in 4 months, The NHS waiting list took 2 years and saw the same doctor who was disappointed that my son hadn't got the ECHP in that time as he believes he needs one to access the right support. Preschool applied for an ECHP and I had the tough decision on school placement. I had put the mainstream primary school because I believed he met the requirements to be assessed and would get the ECHP. I had to put a mainstream school hoping that the one I put down was able to cater for my son needs and the council will see the ECHP was in progress as well as my SEN evidence provided before approving the placement for school. Turned out that he had been placed in mainstream due to proximity and any school could meet his needs. I chose our local school because the familiarity as the preschool is based on the school grounds he saw children playing everyday same route he would go with familiar faces the uniform etc. it helped with transition. That part was ignored that is so important to my son familiarity and routine. My son finally saw a speech and language nhs after two years of talking on the phone and told once things open up he will be seen. He got seen. A week later his ECHP got rejected I asked why. The council came back in the summer before my son out of the 18 week response time and said that there wasn't sufficient evidence my Since my son started school sept 2021 I have paid for an OT assessment, speech and language, the school are paying for an educational psychologist to assess. All to get my son seen in a timely manner he deserves and the support he desperately needs which I got told that after diagnosis the council will be sure to help. I didn't have it in me to fight for a year with the council like my friend had so concluded I would use the DLA money to get these assessments and help so we can move on.

He needs more visits from the specialty autism teacher to advise his current teacher as he grows older and changes. He requires further support from paediatric team for further potential diagnosis. He requires more up to date support with OT.

I cannot get an updated Ed Psych review to update his EHCP. The waiting times are ridiculous and you cannot get one privately either. How can a school accurately support his needs if he hasn't had an updated Ed Psych assessment for over 2 years.? We have also now been turned down for 2 or 3 placements for secondary school as his EHCP details are out of date. his new school have only have him for 5 months and are expected to understand his needs already. We need urgent help to have him reassessed to be able to positively select the correct Secondary School.

I could not answer all the questions accurately as we have only just begun the assessment processes.

I feel that much of the support focuses on the academic achievement. My child is not eligible for an EHCP because they are achieving well but at what cost socially and emotionally. As an Autistic, bright boy he does not appear to be eligible for any support with understanding and managing his diagnosis and supporting resilience, social development and mental health.

I find the local offer confusing to use, out of date, unhelpful, not fit for purpose.

I struggle accessing the support that is supposedly available.

My child has not had an adequate analysis of needs since his diagnosis. I am told that without an EHCP the support is not available.

I have been fighting for 3 years to get my daughter physically seen by some one with specialist experience. No one takes ownership and everyone seems to avoid acknowledging these referrals are not just a name on a piece of paper. A very disappointing and frustrating experience of bucks system. Terrible in fact

I have had no support offered. When my daughter was diagnosed with ADHD and Autism - it was a case of "there's your diagnosis now crack on!" Is how it has been left.

Information can be overwhelming and hard to wade through. Local peer support groups would help.

It is clear what support is needed but still waiting for it to be provided eg speech and language support and occ health support , also had to pay private to get child statemented, was on waiting list age 2.5 to age 7 with NHS feel let down

It is very difficult to assess services such as SALT and OT. My son is now nearly 7 and we have been trying to get support from SALT since he was 3 years old with no luck. The school have had three advice sessions but no one has spoken to me or seen my son. Six weeks ago the school referred to OT and they still haven't triaged him yet. Being a send parent can be very lonely and overwhelming and the services don't help with the frustration.

It really is dire, schools don't access link services or complete referrals, no budgets, no training, schools see it as an inconvenience

It took me 16 months of tears, exhaustion, feeling isolated, not listened to, ignored by BCC. I went to tribunal twice. Once to get an EHC needs assessment and once for a specialist placement. I spent all my savings on support for tribunal only to have BCC conceded 2 days before as their mainstream quoted £46k to educate my daughter., a fact they only realised 2 days before tribunal. I feel like I have PTSD from the whole experience. Luckily my daughter is now in a brilliant specialist placement and I've got my beautiful girl back again, she is so happy. Buckinghamshire Council only care about money, they don't listen to parents and try to make them give up by dragging them to tribunals. Luckily I'm stubborn!

It would be great if GP's were aware of the child's needs before you spoke/see them. I'm always surprised nothing is highlighted on the front of their notes about their needs. It would benefit both parties to know straight away.

Listen to the parents concern over there child and stop passing the buck between teachers and the local authority.

Lock down child 8 can't read or write undo school learnt behaviour went back one week behaviour deteriorated so divided to de register but la wonted panel approval and in annular review pre panel visual impairment support was included but they said they won't work with home education so I withdrew the offer to deregulated november2020 since then no plan no support i sore glimmers of hope as sort a home work Center to support my child six hours a week maths English we where flabbergasted at attainment so went back in may 2022 and requested funding and still no plan nothing it is will full neglect inprisonable buy 5 years but due to the multie Agency approach this can never be investigated as there will always be a conflict of interest

More alternative provisions need funding for children who can not access mainstream education and specialist isn't the 'right' provision. Many families end up home educating due to the trauma caused to their child, and mine, from mainstream settings that are not suitable. Forcing children into these unsuitable environments, damages children's mental health and hearing 'they are fine when they are here' is not acceptable. This scenario has a huge impact on the whole family, from giving up careers, loss of income, navigating the system in times of crisis, lack of understanding and training from professionals which can lead to parental blame. Home education is not the answer for my child/family and requesting funding for alternative provision/tutoring to be implemented is very challenging. Tutoring was successfully set up for 6 hours a week, for 3 months, then abruptly taken away by the school in December. This has been the only environment my child has tolerated for 3 years and keeps asking why he can't go back - funding being the barrier. Having a hub for children not accessing education would be beneficial at family centres where there can be provision for alternative education and socialising, until a plan has been put in place. Surrounding my child with educators that have SEN is best practice and improvements need to be made in this area. During this terrible journey of attempting to support my child all day everyday, to be happy and healthy, whilst trying to navigate the SEN world has been grim.

More education and understanding in mainstream school is desperately needed

Can't raise complaints due to backlash from school

My child attends a special need school in Bucks and is currently being told he cannot attend school for 1 day every fortnight as the class is closed due to lack of TA staff. Initially given less than 24hr notice of class closure and now on a 2 week rota system. Why is it acceptable for SEND children to not have access to their full entitlement of school hours?

My child had to come out of education for a full academic year in the end. He was extremely unwell with psychosis and transitioned from CAMHS to the EI Team. Trying to even get an appointment with Camhs at the time was very difficult. Fortunately GP and school contacted them too and we were seen by crisis. Son eventually taken off roll and has been unable to complete alevels. No signposting from school or LEA as to what to do next. Involved with police, social workers, EI team, family services, SEN bucks. Had to find own way through. Bucks support services helpful with advice about courses to help with recovery and transition. Son completed Prince's Trust course. Did EHCP using Ipsea guide. Contacted colleges to see what was appropriate. Son doing level 3 course as wants to go to uni but really wanted to complete alevels but can't in college. A level online too expensive. In a nutshell had to fight for everything. SEN team bucks said they were not going to assess for EHCP initially. I challenged them directly on the phone and they changed their minds. His placement at college is the best option we have but it's not completely appropriate. He was doing well at a levels. Impossible to get in touch with his college about his ehcp and issues. Had to formally complain. The care from the EI team is average. Very short staffed and overworked. By their own admission they know little about autism so have found it difficult to provide the correct therapy. My worries are about his future and would need advice as to next steps so he can go to uni and keep safe and well.

My child has complex learning disabilities, has attended special school since they were 5 yesterday old. I am a single parent with two children with learning disabilities, my child has been violent and the children with disabilities team consistently refuse to take a referral, leaving the help and support team to muddle through with us. They have to ask the CWD team everytime we need something, as it's not their expertise. How is this fair on them or us. I feel any help is a constant battle, chasing and chasing from my side. No one cares, its just disastrous and a tragically waiting to happen.

We are lucky to be in special school provision and they offer much more than anything Bucks does.

My child has waited over three years now for autism/adhd assessment via community paediatrician. We had to go to tribunal to get her EHCP up to standard. There is no access to OT even though this is in her EHCP. The STS agreed to an observation but have not given us any feedback and nor have school. The EHCCo is unsupportive and the seniors in the team completely ignore all emails. They went back in everything agreed within a stage two complaint and there appears to be no accountability for their actions at all. My other child has diagnosis of asd/adhd/dyspraxia and has poor working memory and slow processing has been refused a needs assessment on the grounds that she doesn't have sen.

My child is in Year 8 at ***, I gave the SENCo a full briefing of my daughter's issues prior to her joining, she promised lots and did absolutely nothing. She advised that it would be easier for us to apply for a Needs Assessment as it would take her a while to get around to it. The school section that she was asked to fill in gave hardly any detail whatsoever and showed that she did not understand my child's needs at all. At various meetings she would promise action and do absolutely nothing. She undermined my daughter's confidence in the school and completely misjudged the situation. I am so angry and upset that as a result of her lack of care, knowledge, disinterest my daughter is not attending school - the damage was done at the very beginning and whilst the Learning Support contacts I have at the school now are very supportive and caring and understand my daughter it is too late for her, her confidence is destroyed and her mental health at an all time low.

My child is suffering from unneeded stress due to the LA maiming an unsuitable school for her secondary transfer this year. She was moved from Mainstream to an ARP where she doesn't access the mainstream in Nov 21. Wll reports say she should go to specialist setting but the LA named a mainstream secondary. My child is now suffering mentally because of this.

My child is unable to attend school as she is too unwell. County agreed at mediation that her mainstream secondary could not meet her needs but that was months ago with no new school found. They have agreed a home tutor for now.

Support for SEND? There is virtually none. County are horrific. They routinely ignore the 'May' in the legal test for EHCNA and so refuse nearly all requests. And then you have to go to tribunal where of course it is overturned because county are acting unlawfully but that means county have wasted around a year of time and left the child unsupported. When you do get a yes to EHCNA social care NEVER assess which is unlawful, EP never has space, OT is oversubscribed also so you end up with the 20 weeks coming to an end and county finalising a plan that is worthless just so they meet legal deadlines. There is NO preparation for adulthood, literally none. When questioned they said 'oh you can ask for that at annual review'! Staff change so frequently that you never know who you have as EHCO, emails go unteponded to. The send resolutions team never make contact. Leadership is awful. FACT Bucks are awful and exclude members from meetings. FACT do not speak for parents, they are Andrew Howard's only and he is a puppet for county. The entire send system in Bucks is broken, I've been dealing with it for 8 years and seen on further failures and nothing by way of improvement.

My child is waiting for intervenor support and hasn't yet received any. She is waiting for continuing care assessment. She is also being failed by her school as she is currently home learning once a week due to staff shortages.

My child's school work incredibly hard for all their SEN children but things at a county level are a shambles; nowhere near enough staff, legal timelines not stuck to with. I accountability and people just not answering emails or phone calls. There us no reason that the SEN should 'shut' during the school summer holidays; if assessments have been done, then paperwork and the forwarding of cases can still be completed in this time.

my child's needs have not be met at all and the council know what needs to be done but continue to ignore it and allow my child to get worse

My comments relate to BEFORE Jan '23 as that is when our tribunal was conceded and our son finally got a special school place after 4 years of struggle. NHS lack of provision was an enormous barrier to his access. OT admitting that they had abandoned our son for SEVEN years. We had to sell our house to fund private support as he was failed by schools, nhs and Buckinghamshire. NHS is particularly poor as***** ***** lies about provision which doesn't exist and Andrew Howard supports her. Why? The system is broken and young people and children are suffering. Our son lost 4 years of education, friendship and suffered trauma and damage to his mental health. He was demonised rather than supported and we were blamed for his negative behaviours, which were obviously trauma reactions. Please stop lying. Stop supporting people who are lying, Children are our future and they are being not only failed by the state, they are damaged by awful 'one size fits all', draconian education system, curriculum and exams. This has meant greater need for SEND support and EHCP and the services bury their heads in the ground and blame schools, rather than speaking up. Statutory-only EP assessments and no SaLT or OT because of ridiculous policy 'hoops'. This has to stop! FACT are supposed to represent parents, so I don't understand why Andrew Howard doesn't speak up. Why does he allow ***** ***** to gaslight parents? Why does he allow the likes of ***** ***** to lie and say that Bucks is good when in reality we know that Bucks is the laughing stock of the country. Such bad leadership that staff have low retention (apart from incompetent staff, they seem to hang around- I see you *****!) Staff can join the narcissists, liars and frauds who do nothing other than line their own pockets and cover their own backs (badly), but anyone with professional pride and competence leaves as quickly as they can. Join with parents and fight this!

My daughter desperately wants to go to a school setting she can cope with and learn enough to get her maths and English GCSEs, so she can do the college course she's had her heart set on for years. Her school and everyone who knows her, knows mainstream can't meet her needs but getting her into a suitable educational setting seems like trying to touch the moon.

My daughter has been diagnosed as dyslexic but needs additional investigation for ADD and dyspraxia. Up until this point I have paid privately for each assessment but can no longer fund the costs of the next ones. The wait lists for children to be assessed are ridiculous, children are struggling and are waiting years to be seen. We also found that whilst the school has been supportive of our efforts and in providing support for my child, everything has been driven by me and no real guidance and where to go and what to do have been given. So much more is needed in school. My daughter is still on the list for her speech and language NHS assessment for her EHCP which should have happened last year. She is also waiting for an occupational therapy assessment which should have taken place as part of her EHCP. Without these specialist assessments it is very difficult for the school to appropriately support her and for her EHCP to cover all the areas in which she needs support and provide appropriate targets. Some of her EHCP funding has had to be used for a private speech therapist so that we can support her speech development but this then means she is missing out on 1 to 1 support in other areas she needs. The school have been excellent but are also struggling as they because my daughter has not seen these specialist they are unsure as to what support they should be providing to help her progress. The only assessment she did have as part of the EHCP was with an educational psychologist who did not even meet her in person to assess her. I do not see how a person who has never met my daughter is expected to fully understand her and her needs. My daughter has been identified as having special needs since she as 18months old however other than yearly checks with the community pediatrician is has been incredibly difficult to access appropriate support for her. Speech and language has been virtually impossible to see and occupational health the same. Since it is well recognised that early support improves outcomes I am incredibly disappointed in the level of care my daughter has received in these crucial early years.

My son and my family have been massively failed by the local authority ,We took them court and they lost. We even went to our MP . My son hate school as they have restrained him and hurt him so many times. I now have a child with massive mental heath problems coursed by the local authority putting him in the wrong school and failing him.

My son now lives in a residential setting out of county, as there is no appropriate provision within Buckinghamshire. He is very happy in the new environment so far and that is very good news for us as his family. It would be difficult now for him to return to Bucks without a significant amount of work and preparation.

No idea what is available, everything is so overwhelming and such a battle that I have stopped asking for help. The waiting lists are huge and nobody seems to want to help us.

No joined up thinking with schools and other services. We got more help jot using school SENDCo and used their pastoral care team and the community team were great.

Not enough clear support. Hard to access any service. Long waiting times. Criteria to receive support should be individually based, rather than generic. Not enough support for the children and parents. Short staffed. Not enough funding. Overall it's in a dire state, which is felt by us SEND families. A huge worry is how many children get missed by those families who do not 'fight' for their children. Those with a lower socioeconomic status, with parents who themselves suffer with disability and/or mental health issues and those who are overwhelmed by the processes. Huge consequences occur from not receiving the correct support, when required.

My child is awaiting assessment at camhs for asd but displays all signs of asd and sensory processing disorder and adhd , she also has severe anxiety.

Once you de register your child from school, you are on your own.

Parents of children with SEND are busy enough without having to chase the SEN team for things they should be doing. We've had annual review meetings for two years running with a proposed EHCP only, creating confusion and extra work for parents and the school. Frustratingly, parents also have to chase schools to do what they should. If my child hasn't changed school, why hasn't the previous year's team passed on their learning to the new team? So key for a child with complex needs -- who ends up being further disabled by staff when they are not trained in supporting the child's needs.

Schools don't hAve enough training so support is varied and the child is not understood. Things that work for most children don't always work the same for a SEND child for example phonics - sight reading is better for some

Secondary schools, wanting the child to do that individual best, not just in line with other

SEND in Buckinghamshire is all about ticking the boxes. Parents/carers are exhausted begging for the right support for the children/young adults whether in Education or not.

Send is underfunded. Needs more people and resources.

SLT should be provided by the Council / school and not have to be privately funded

Somehow my child and I seem to have unfortunately missed a lot of support that may have been available. I am most of all disappointed with the total lack of support from the school, and I think that the Bucks Local Authority are failing in their duty of monitoring and ensuring children such as mine are getting the support they need from mainstream schools. The 'system' should have safeguards to prevent such failings, and I think it needs an investigation of its structure and systems. The response times for all services are too long. My now failed mediation for the LA decision to refuse to assess for an EHCH this week will now result in a whole year wasted waiting for a tribunal hearing. The LA rep did not have the power to overturn the decision not to assess, so the meeting was pre-ordained against us. Support from CAMHS and Social Services has been completely inadequate and has made things worse. The EHCP process is breaking me. Support has only slightly improved due to private assessments being completed.

Support seemed forth coming once we had a diagnosis, prior to this it was very difficult to know what and how to access anything. School were limited in their support, not helped by Covidpandemic. Waitlists NEED to be shorter for diagnosis with CAMHS. Communication to parents also needs to be improved.

Teachers and Sencos need to stop telling parents of girls that their child is clearly masking and clearly has ASD but then saying they won't bother trying to get an EHCP to help them. Girls need recognition and help when young to enable them to enjoy school and keep going.

Terrible

The delays from county regarding SEND with everything is atrocious. There are not enough appropriate school places for children and the waiting times for assessments/diagnosis is diabolical. It is totally unacceptable

The local offer lists services that are not inclusive or autism friendly under the banner of autism friendly. For example ***** **** is appallingly judgemental and unhelpful and have excluded my child and yet are claiming to be autism friendly and have just been rated out standing. It's a shame that the lived experience of users is not important.

The questionnaire makes no reference to how you got a correct EHCP eg via tribunal. Believe it is very rare to get a good EHCP without going to tribunal sadly

The school acknowledge he needs a teaching assistant present in the classroom to help him focus but they don't have enough TAs available to do this. They only have her for 1 hour a day and even then she gets called away to do other things in school.

The service is very frustrating it has taken 18months to get the uncompleted EHCplan as there has been assessment by OT and yet the EHCplan is finalised with so much errors in it. My son requires 2 specialist OT , one for he restrictive eating and one for movement and balance both which I am privately funding and all these is not yet been assessed to be included in the EHCplan that was finalised despite my disagreement. It is a stressful process and avoidable time wastage on the part of the ECH coordinator is appalling. I will like to be contacted regarding my child as it was a traumatic experience for me at the moment given the fact that I have an older child with SEN needs and in a special school. I did know what to do. The whole system is broken and needs over hauling.

The support from school is amazing. However, it's so far away he has no social links out of school as his friends aren't local to us. Youth groups and activities for children out of school hours would be very welcome.

The survey is very biased as it doesn't look at how section B and F are actually created, eg by going to Tribunal. The case officers constantly change and then provision is often withheld. If parents of children with no difficulty had to go through what sen parents have to go through there would be outrage but it appears it doesn't matter to families like us. It is appalling and all the slapping on the backs of didn't we do we'll never seems to be the real reality of the situation. Therapies is non existent and wanting to take online for children that can't do online, EP's aren't ever available and all are dictated to by policies and thresholds

The wait for OT is inordinately long and then was undertaken without us as parent present, meaning we were not able to present our concerns and our 6 year old was expected to speak for themselves! Consequently there has been no change or improvement. The physiotherapist referral was cancelled by the NHS who said they could not take any more patients due to 'Covid pressures' so we have had to go back to our GP again for a further referral and still have not seen a physio, more than 2 years after the initial referral.

There are no schools for academically able autistic children who can't attend big settings. So my children are at home which means I can't work.

There are not enough SEND staff available to help all the children in Bucks.

There is a continued systemic failure and lack of services for pupils with send. Statutory deadlines continue to be ignored. Provision especially secondary for those with asd and adhd that is available to access but still mainstream does not exist. The use of independent setting is often the only options for parents as there is not a full range of provision available! The ECHOs change too frequently- sendcos are being asked to perform miracles. Schools who offload their send pupils by notee mting need or being obstructive are not held to account meaning that some schools have more .

This form is very difficult to fill out for cases of Dyslexia. All questions are required, even if you answer 'Not applicable' to previous questions rendering the next question irrelevant. We as a family have had to self fund all of our child's dyslexia assessments and extra help via a tutor. We have been offered very little guidance, support from the schools and it seems impossible for anyone without the means, to get children diagnosed with learning difference's that aren't extreme. Our daughters Dyslexia was only hinted at by the school after in the last term of year 4 even though we as parents had raised concerns with her progress ever since year 1. The school has got better, but there is still very little communication or help provided from either the school or the council as far as we can see.

To get any support it has taken 1 and 1/2 years just to get a referral for speech and language therapy. We are still on the waiting list so at this moment in time we are not supported enough. And at no point have we been given extra help.

Transition process from school to college is very poor. Best interests of student are not a priority. A breakdown in trust between parents and council now widespread. I don't believe our child would be at college without the involvement of lawyers.

Very poor. Very disappointing. Kids being failed.

Waiting list for assessment 12+ months. Waiting list for paediatrics 6+ months. Occupational therapy recommended 2015 - never received

We are still awaiting autism assessment which is coming to two years. Have only received Ehcp final since fighting for it since May 2022 which will be contested as it is not enough and missing vital assessments

We have had to fight hard to overcome unlawful criteria to access social care assessments. We have been LA staff consistently spend more time gaslighting and attempting to Cover up for their unlawful decision making than they do actually trying to meet children's needs . There is never any value-add.appalled by the non existent transition to adulthood from social care , send and health (CAMHs). We continue to struggle to arrange accessible health appointments. FACT Bucks does not reliably represent the views of parents and children in Buckinghamshire. They do not challenge the local authority instead providing a tick box for the Local Authority to say - we've consulted with parents. I see no will to make any improvements to support for SEND children in Buckinghamshire - only an ongoing drive to deny provision and quality of provision - all to save money.

We have had to invest privately for our child's well-being , without this support we would have faced further struggles. I resigned from my teaching post as I was unable to manage the needs of the children and work. We have made a couple of formal complaints to the LA, all have been upheld. There was loss of paperwork on more than one occasions and lack of communication between LA and therapies. Very poor service. It has been utterly exhausting and stressful.

We've requested for one to one support at class room, but we never got and school is saying they find it difficult to find a speech and language therapist.

Without me as a parent advocating for my child with every last bit of energy, my daughter would not have received support from camhs. She would not have had her dyslexia assessment and I feel very unsettled in the lack of understanding at my daughters school.