

For more information on how you can get involved, visit:
www.factbucks.org.uk

FACT Parent Carer Forum Newsletter April 2025



What is FACT Bucks?

FACT stands for Families and Carers Together. We are Buckinghamshire's Parent Carer Forum.

We are an independent group of parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities and/or special educational needs in Buckinghamshire.

We are here to give parent carers a voice. By joining our forum, you'll be part of a collective effort to enhance and improve the services our children need

Membership is free, and your participation can make a real difference. Join us today!

Go to our website:
www.factbucks.org.uk/get-involved/

or email us on:
admin@factbucks.org.uk

Monthly drop in discussion group



FACT BUCKS
Parent Carer Forum



2025 Parent Carer Discussion Group

1st Wednesday of the month to share ideas, experiences and strategies.

First Wednesday
1.30pm to 3.30pm
The Well Being Hub
BNU Aylesbury

This meeting is for all parents and carers of a child or young adult with any special educational need and/or disability and is free to attend.

Coffee/tea and time to meet other families. Please come along to the Buckinghamshire New University, share your concerns and views.



Walking with you

The chance to connect with like-minded people who have walked in your shoes.

Walking With You is a parent led support group for anyone supporting children and young people, up to the age of 25, experiencing mental health difficulties.

You can take part discussing shared experiences with other parents and carers as well as having mental health professionals from CAMHS on-hand to support and answer any questions you may have.

Dates:

Monday, 28TH of April 10am – 11:30am

Monday, 19th of May 10am – 11.30am

Monday, 23rd of June, 10am – 11.30am

If you would like to join the session/s or would like further information, please contact:

Roxy Uritescu, Participation Lead,
 Bucks CAMHS at
Roxy.uritiescu@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk



It's time for the annual FACT Bucks survey

This is an influential survey which the Council and local health and voluntary organisations take very seriously, using it to understand your views and to plan services for SEND families. The questions are about your experience of the SEND system within Buckinghamshire. Your views are important and will be read and taken into account.

This questionnaire is for families of all children with special educational needs and/or a disability ('SEND'), not just those with an Education, Health and Care Plan ('EHCP') or formal 'SEN support' at school.

Survey answers are confidential and will not be used in any way that might allow identification of any individuals. You will not be asked for your name or email address.

Depending upon your particular circumstances this survey will take approximately 15 to 20 minutes to complete. If you run out of time you can save your response and return later. You can also go back to a previous page and change an answer if you like.

You will find the survey link on our website here:

<https://www.factbucks.org.uk/latest-news/annual-survey-of-parent-carers/>

This year FACT Bucks are offering three cash prizes in the draw – £150, £100 and £50 to the first three respondents drawn out of a hat. The information on how to enter the draw is given at the end of the survey.

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Do you have a passion for improving the SEND system?

FACT Bucks is seeking parents and carers to join our team as Trustees, advocating for children and young people with additional needs in Buckinghamshire.

About Us: We're a parent-led forum advocating for children with additional needs, working across education, health, and social care to ensure parent/carers involvement.

Role: As a Trustee, you will guide FACT Bucks' strategy, ensure legal compliance, and oversee funding and performance.

Responsibilities: Approve plans, budgets, and monitor performance. Oversee funding bids and grants. Attend termly meetings and the Annual Meeting. Ensure legal and regulatory compliance. Provide leadership to the Team Leader.

We welcome passionate individuals, particularly parents, carers, or teachers. No prior governance experience required. Email admin@factbucks.org to get involved.



EBSNA Feedback event

FACT held a conversation about the challenges of EBSNA - Emotionally base school Non attendance. Parent and carers told us that they experience:

- Inconsistent school support, with teachers struggling to provide tailored assistance for neurodivergent children.
- Mental health emerges as a key concern, with school environments often triggering anxiety and emotional dysregulation.
- Trust is fragile, as repeated breaches of agreed support plans erode confidence between students, parents, and educators.
- Systemic issues are prevalent: long assessment waiting times, limited post-diagnostic support, and generalised advice that fails to address individual needs.
- Parents find themselves constantly advocating for their children, navigating complex educational landscapes with minimal professional guidance. The core message is clear: neurodivergent children require personalized, consistent support that recognizes their unique emotional and educational needs. This demands better teacher training, more flexible school approaches, and a fundamental shift in understanding neurodiversity beyond standardised interventions.

If you are affected by EBSNA and would like to share your experiences or want to know more please let us know via <https://www.factbucks.org.uk/contact-us/>