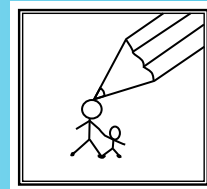


Parent Partnership Service



Welcome to our summer newsletter! It is shorter than usual, as we are now fully stretched supporting parents and preparing for changes to the Service after the summer. We are looking forward to setting up two Parent Partnership Services, one for Bedford Borough, and one for Central Bedfordshire. We do not have all the details yet because many things are still unknown.

New staff have been appointed and we are looking at where to have the office in Central Bedfordshire. The telephone number for the Central Bedfordshire Service is 0300 300 8088. You can call us on this number at the moment, or use the old number.



Central
Bedfordshire

The Bedford Service will stay put in our present offices for a while yet. The Bedford Borough Service details are: Westfield Middle School, Chester Road, Bedford, MK40 4HW
Tel 01234 316353



BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

We recently heard some great news at one of our coffee mornings (which temporarily replaced the Local Parent Forums this term). We met a parent whom we supported in the past and she told us that her son, who has dyslexia, had written a poem which was chosen to be included in The Big Green Machine's 'A World of Difference, Eastern Poets', edited by Annabel Cook and published by Young Writers. We were so pleased, we asked to print it in this newsletter.

We give you fresh air
You give us dirt and grime
In the air from planes and cars
We all choke on your dirt and grime



Anthony Carter, aged 13, at Stratton Upper School

Have your say!

Do you sometimes have ideas about how the Parent Partnership Service, the Local Authorities and schools could improve the support they give parents and carers of children with SEN?

The two new Parent Partnership Services would like to invite you to join in our email consultation group and/or volunteer to join focus groups.



We will:

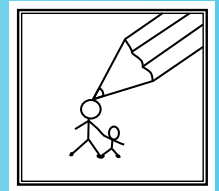
- keep your name on the list for two years (unless you tell us otherwise)
- forward relevant information to you so that you can decide when and if you would like to be involved
- not pass your name onto others.

Please fill in the slip overleaf if you would like to join us.

Please return this to: Parent Partnership Service,
FREEPOST NAT17163, Bedford MK40 4BR

Or email: parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Parent Partnership Service



AFC Kempston organise disability football training sessions for children U16 and adults. They are keen for more young people to join.

The sessions are from **9 – 10** am on Saturdays and cost **£2** for **1 hour**.

They take place on the ATP at AFC Kempston, Hillgrounds Road, Kempston

For more information contact **Lynda Capener** on **01234 402997** or visit the website, www.clubwebsite.co.uk/afckempston/disabilityteam



I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THE FISH OILS HAVE HELPED HIS CONCENTRATION, BUT THEY'VE CERTAINLY HELPED KEEP THE FLY POPULATION DOWN



Three police forces have joined a scheme to help safeguard people with autism living in their counties. Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Constabularies and Bedfordshire Police launched an Autism Alert Card on Thursday 30th April at an event attended by some of the leading Autism charities and professionals in the country. Parents and carers of people with autism in East Anglia are now able to apply, free of charge, for an Autism Alert Card which will be carried by their family member with autism. The card tells people that this person has an Autism Spectrum Condition and explains that they have social communication difficulties; they are likely to be extremely anxious in unfamiliar situations; that their behaviour may appear threatening or strange and they will need the support of an appropriate adult or intermediary. It also contains contact details for family members or carers.

If you would like one of these cards, you must contact Autism Anglia on 01206 577678 or go to their website for more details www.autism-anglia.org.uk

They will take some details and then send your card.

The Parent Partnership Service currently covers Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough. It provides a free, confidential and impartial service for parents of children with special educational needs. Our postal address is: Westfield Middle School, Chester Road, Bedford, MK40 4HW

Email: **parent.partnership@bedford.gov.uk** (Bedford area)
parent.partnership@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk (Central Bedfordshire)

You can download Parent Partnership information, including past newsletters and information leaflets on www.bedfordshireparentpartnership.co.uk.

If you would like help or advice about your child's education you can 'phone our helpline weekdays on:

01234 316 353 (Bedford area)
Or 0300 300 8088 (Central Bedfordshire)



Please notify me by email of consultations relevant to parents of children with SEN

Please invite me to focus groups (mileage/travel will be reimbursed)

I live in: Bedford Borough Central Bedfordshire

Name (please print) _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

It would help us to know the age(s) of your child(ren), the type of school they attend, whether they are at Action, Action Plus or have a Statement and their main area of SEN.

	Age	Action Action Plus Statement	Type of schools (Lower, Middle, Upper, Special)	Main area of SEN
1				
2				
3				
4				