



Autism in Schools Project

Aims of the project

The Accelerator project aims to reduce inappropriate educational exclusions and hospital admissions for children and young people with learning disabilities, autism spectrum conditions (ASCs) and/or challenging behaviour.

Parent Carer Forums, supported by Contact, have played a key role in developing and delivering this programme, alongside statutory services.

Throughout this project, forums have helped design the right support, recognise the young peoples' strengths and capabilities, and identify ways to intervene to avoid a crisis.

Evidence suggests better planning, joint action and more capacity in local services would prevent many hospital admissions.

What is happening locally?

Schools across BCP were identified to work with, and commitment gained from schools for allocated staff to attend training.

Forum representatives have attended these alongside school staff and parents to establish working relationships. Parent Carers Together is looking at working with schools using principles of co-production to establish 'mini forums' giving parent/carers opportunities to discuss their experiences and work together for improvement.