

PARENT CARERS TOGETHER



Bournemouth Christchurch Poole

the voice of parent carers of young people with
special educational needs and disabilities

**AN
INTRODUCTION**

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF PARENT CARER FORUMS



Parent Carer Forums offer routes for local authorities and health to understand the wider parental and family perspective across the local area.

WHO ARE WE AND WHY DO WE DO IT?

01

We are the parent carer forum for Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole. We support parent carers of children and young people aged 0 –25 years with additional needs or disabilities.

02

As a parent carer forum, we enable the Local Authority to fulfil its statutory requirement to listen, engage and work together with parent carers for the benefit of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families.

03

We work with those who make local policies that affect your child and young person, in education, social care and health to represent your concerns and to ensure that they understand your needs and the aspirations you have for your child / young person.

04

The Local Authority and Health Service are committed to working with us and we have a seat on all the strategic boards that oversee and direct policies relating to our children and young people. We are round the table as equal partners on your behalf.

OUR CORE OFFER

PARENT CARERS TOGETHER

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Members Support Page



Mythbusters

We Are Not:

But:

a support group

we are supportive, however, our primary role is coproduction & service improvement

able to fight individual cases

your individual case will support our collective voice

here as SEND, education or health professionals

we are here as parents of children with SEND, to represent your collective voice

here to fill gaps in services

we will advocate for providers to fill gaps that have been identified

an advice service


we will signpost you to services that can provide advice


a campaign or protest group

forums and other groups are often trying to influence the same changes,, we recognise the benefits of working together

Employed by the local authority

we do receive funding from them and other sources to enable us to do this work



Interested? You can find out more about the forum, by clicking this link 
<https://www.parentcarerstogether.org.uk/>

Joining the forum means:

You can:

- **Meet up with parents and carers who share your experiences and have useful tips**
 - **Gain access to our social media and newsletter, which gives detail of local support and events**
- **Give your voice to shape services in health, education and social care...you are the experts!**

... but ...

**INTERESTED
IN BEING
MORE
INVOLVED
WITH THE
FORUM? ...**



Volunteer with us - We are always looking for parents and carers to get involved with the work of the forum and we appreciate any time you can give to support parent carer voices

FORUM ROLES

01



OUTREACH

can you spare 2–3 hours a week to host/attend coffee mornings in community to gather parent views on services

02



PARENT PANELS

can you spare 2–3 hours per half term to be part of a focus group, reviewing policies and strategies and looking at services in more detail

03



PARENT REP

can you spare 2–3 hours a month to represent the wider parent voice in strategic meetings with BCP Council and Dorset NHS.
Training Provided

04



FACILITATOR

can you spare 2–3 hours a week to support parents to look after their own health and wellbeing.
Training provided

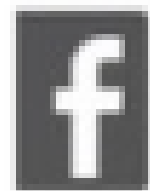
Interested?



If you would like to know more about the individual roles on offer with Parent Carers Together then email louise@parentcarerstogether.org.uk



THANK YOU

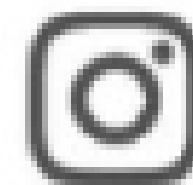


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