

Sunderland Parent Carer Forum Info Sheet

Who are the Parent Carer Forum

We are a parent led, voluntary group of parents, carers and grandparents, all with children or young people (CYP) aged 0-25 with SEND (special educational needs and disabilities); our CYP have a variety of SEND.

What do we aim to do?

Our aim is to give parent carers a voice in how services for CYP with SEND are shaped and delivered in the City of Sunderland, as well as an opportunity to come together and talk in a relaxed atmosphere.

FAQs & Mythbuster

Do we support/advise parents through the EHCP process?

No, we don't have the legal training or capacity for this.

We would always recommend the parent contacts the local SENDIASS service.

What do we do?

- promote parent voice through participation and co-production.
- run coffee mornings and events
- provide information and training to parent carers.

Are we just another support group?

No, we are a participation group, but we will try and signpost you to a support group where appropriate.

Who do we work for?

No-one! We represent parent carers but are entirely independent of any statutory organisation.

We are all volunteers.

Are we a campaign group?

No, but we acknowledge the important role that campaign groups have in helping to get the parent voice heard. We are happy to work with campaign groups by providing them information and feeding back the issues they raise.

What is Co-production and participation?

Co-production means Parent Carers and practitioners working together as equal partners in design, development, commissioning, delivery, and review of services to create better outcomes for children & young people with SEND.

