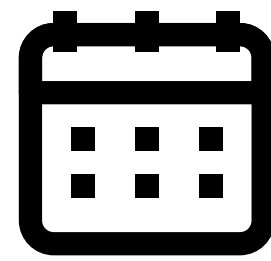




## Save the date for our AGM



Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **26th Sept 2024 9.30 till 12 at Missenden Abbey**

This is an open meeting to hear an update about FACT's work over the past year. Everyone is welcome and we will be joined by the new Director of Education, Michael Jarrett.



## Meet the iSEND team

Come for a friendly chat and meet the iSEND team in the Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe area.

This informal session is a great opportunity for parent carers to ask questions, share experiences, and connect with others in a relaxed setting. We look forward to seeing you there!

**23rd July from 10am - 12noon**

No booking required, just drop in.

Address: Potting Shed Cafe  
Chesham, HP5 3BP



## What happened at the recent meet the iSEND team meeting?

At the recent meet the iSEND meeting in Aylesbury, 15 parents met to ask questions and chat to the iSEND team for the Aylesbury area.

Topics discussed included:

- Panel placement process, especially where no placement is made
- EHCP process
- How to find information and contact the right person
- Transition to adulthood
- Transport
- Complaints

Look out for the full notes on our [website](#) soon.

## **FACT Bucks team changes**



### **Welcome to our new Communications and Information Officer**

Welcome to our new Communications Officer – Rupali Devkar.

As a SEND parent she is very familiar with the reality of the systems and support for CYP with additional needs and the work we are doing to try and improve them.

She will be active on the Facebook page and website as well as other social media platforms to keep you informed of the work of the Forum, the opportunities for you to share your views and to listen to your current concerns.

## **Farewell to our Team Leader**

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the resignation of our Team Leader, Andrew Howard, from his position at FACT Bucks, effective Autumn 2024.

We are grateful for Andrew's commitment and hard work on behalf of the parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs in Buckinghamshire.

Andrew's leadership and vision have been instrumental in driving our strategic objectives forward and growing our influence drawing on his lived experience as a parent carer. We wish Andrew all the best and are delighted that he will stay involved in a different capacity to continue the work of FACT Bucks.

**For more information on how you can get involved, visit:**

**[www.factbucks.org.uk](http://www.factbucks.org.uk)**



# FACT Parent Carer Forum Newsletter July 2024



## Could you be our next Team Leader?

Are you passionate about co-production and advocacy for parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs?

Do you have the leadership and relationship building skills to influence and drive positive change in education, health, and social care sectors?

This could be the role for you. It is a paid role appointed by the trustees.

For a full role description and how to apply, please go to our website:  
[www.factbucks.org.uk](http://www.factbucks.org.uk)

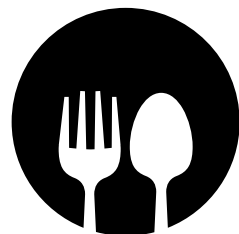
## Transition from child to adult health services Healthwatch report

FACT Bucks has been working with Healthwatch on this report has been published and is available on our website.

A focus group of parents interested in PFA is currently being formed a FACT.

Please let us know if you are interested in joining by emailing  
[admin@factbucks.org.uk](mailto:admin@factbucks.org.uk)

## Holiday Activities & Food programme (HAF)



The HAF program receives cash from central government to provide physical activities and food for children in need during the main school holidays.

Up to 15% of its funding and places can be offered to CYP with SEND that do not meet the free school meal qualification test. HAF help more SEND kids in the holidays than the Bucks Activity Project.

FACT are represented on the HAF steering group.

## Therapies update



In February, Bucks Healthcare Trust was awarded the renewed contract following the approval of the new Therapies Strategy, which is expected to have a positive impact on waiting lists. However, it remains uncertain whether these changes will counterbalance the growing number and complexity of cases.

Under the new contract, the NHS now provides therapies to children and young people in Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) and SEN units, a responsibility previously managed and funded by the ARPs themselves. Therapy provision in special schools may soon be subject to increased scrutiny. Watch this space for more information as it develops.

