Brent Parent Carer Forum

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are really keen to develop more ways for parents to be involved in BPCF and for parents to be better signposted, informed and supported to navigate the journey we have to make as parents of a child or young person with SEND.

We are keen to support schools to better equip parents as they work their way through the world of SEND.

As a Parent Carer Forum, we aim to

- 1. Ensure that we have effective mechanisms to reach families that represents the diverse and social and economic and lived experiences of families in Brent
- 1. Work closely with all known groups and schools to ensure that those parents/carers who are seldom heard/harder to reach are given the opportunity to have a voice
- Ensure that equal regard is given to seeking the views of parents/carers whose children may be accessing mainstream and special school/ settings being supported on SEN support or with EHCP <u>https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/parent-carer-participation</u> <u>BRENT PARENT CARERS CIC (brentpcf.org)</u>

As a strategic group we want to use parents direct experience of receiving services and living with SEND, so that Parent Carer Forums can help set the agenda and highlight where local services, processes, and commissioners are working well, or challenge when changes or improvements need to be made.

Parent Carer Forums work in a solution-focused way with their local partners to find the best possible outcomes and solutions for local families, with the resources that are available – and if those resources are inadequate, they are perfectly within their rights to challenge this

We are keen to visit schools to tell you and your parents about our role and would really love to invite interested parents to become a SEND parent Champion for their school or within the local community

We are looking for parent/carers who would be willing to volunteer a few hours a week and meet with other parents telling them about services for children and young people with SEND through a range of different avenues. In areas such as:

 \cdot Brent Carer Parent Forum—official strategic voice in Brent

· Brent 's Local Offer

- · Access to short breaks
- . Education and social care
- · Health services and key messages
- · Childcare and parenting support

What are the benefits for SEND parent champions?

- \cdot Opportunity to meet with other <code>parents/carers</code>
- \cdot Training to assist you to move toward developing your confidence and skills
- · Experience that will support you toward new goals and employment
- · You will become better informed and equipped in your own role as parents
- · You will receive regular support and supervision.

If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a parent champion or if you as school would like to meet us to tell you and or parents about our role – Please call Carol on 07852101492 or email Meetal on <u>admin@brentpcf.org</u>