

# Meaningful Co-production and working with PCFs



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# What is a Parent Carer Forum



**WHAT WE ARE?**



**WHAT DO WE STAND FOR?**



**DO WE DIFFER FROM EACH OTHER?**

# What We Are

Integrity

Neurodiverse

Public Relations

Leaders in lived experience

Influencers

Empathic

Listening Service

Educators

Compassionate

Peer Support

Carers

Solution Focused

Passionate

Event Organisers

Strategic Partners

Review/write communications to ensure parent friendly

Represent the voice of families

Member led

Resilience

Skilled signposting

SEND Experts

# What do we stand for



# How we differ

- Funding and Resources
- Activities and Services
- Different local requirements
- Geographical Focus

Communication Style

Partnerships

Size and Membership

Structure

# How to work with a PCF

**Listening** - PCFs can provide insights into what matters to families, including what is working well and what needs improvement. Most importantly, they will collaborate with you to find solutions!

**Inclusion** - Ensure that your PCF understands the governance structure for SEND and collaborates with them to ensure their involvement in key strategic boards, workstreams and projects

**Understanding** - Anyone representing a Parent Carer Forum (PCF) is a parent or carer of a child or young person with additional needs. Many of them volunteer their time, and nearly all balance their commitments to the PCF with their own demanding caring responsibilities. It's important to note that most PCFs operate only during school hours and terms.

# Common Barriers

- Historical Evidence
- Professional Anxiety
- Funding
- Volunteer Capacity

Multi-Agency Collaboration Issues

Communication Barriers

Representation and Inclusivity

Strategic Influences

# Examples of Good Co-Production

- ▶ Joint Planning
- ▶ Preparing For Adulthood
- ▶ Surveys
- ▶ SEND Champions
- ▶ Event With Family Feedback
- ▶ Showcasing Solutions
- ▶ Send Local Offer Review
- ▶ Attending Other Organisations' Events
- ▶ Representation Of SEND Panels
- ▶ SEND Listening Opportunities Events

- SEND Improvement Plans
- Engagement Opportunities
- Focus Groups
- Shaping Policies And Services
- Partners In Commissioning
- Multi-agency Pathway Involvement
- Graffiti Walls
- Development Of SEND Strategies
- SEND Staff Training
- Online Peer Support Sessions

# Examples of Co-Production haven't worked

- Lack of shared responsibility
  - Parent, LA and School failure to engage
  - Failure to address underlying issues
  - Conflict without resolution
  - Low trust and Morale
  - Engagement fatigue
  - Inconsistent Policy engagement - Tokenistic Engagement
- Poor cooperation  
Ineffective strategies  
Inconsistent evidence  
Lack of transparency  
Negative Social Media

# Examples of what has gone well

- Coffee mornings
- Information Stands
- Social Media
- Award recognition
- EBSA/ENSNA

**“Communication with families that are accurate, compassionate, and timely, with the local authority, health and schools”**



