

PARENT CARERS TOGETHER



Bournemouth Christchurch Poole

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



Volunteers' Week 2023: Celebrate and Inspire

Parent Carers Together marks Volunteers' Week 2023.

2023 is the 39th year of Volunteers' Week which runs 1st-7th June.

Parent Carers Together will join thousands of charities and voluntary organisations recognising the contribution volunteers make across the UK. With this year's theme of 'Celebrate and Inspire' we hope to encourage people to be the change that we want to see and get involved in volunteering in whatever way works for them.

The contribution of volunteers is often unseen and unrecognised by many, visible only through the incredible impact of their volunteering, so taking the time during Volunteers' Week to celebrate their efforts and all they contribute to our local communities, the voluntary sector and society as a whole has never been more important.

Volunteers' Week is a chance to celebrate and recognise the fantastic contribution our volunteers make. We are the representative voice of parents and carers of children and young people (0-25 years), with special educational needs and or disabilities living in Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole. We have had an incredibly busy year, the range of work we have undertaken has included sharing views and experiences, representing parents and carers at local authority and health provider meetings, running events and collecting evidence to help improve both local and national services.

In these challenging times when parents and carers are facing increased challenges with Education, Health & Care systems, along with increases to the cost of living and are still experiencing the impact of Covid, we are now more than ever dependent on volunteers to ensure that the voice of parents and carers can be instrumental in improving services not only for our own children, but for those accessing SEND services in the future.



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At the moment we have a small passionate, dedicated team of volunteers and one part-time member of staff. As a forum we want to be involved in ensuring services for all our families are planned, designed, commissioned and evaluated with us.

We have some great parents and carers and a wide SEND community who are very supportive and engaging. We need more volunteers to bring the passion of our community into real change.

Whether you can spare a couple of hours a month, join an online meeting, attend a coffee morning – the opportunities are vast, and we need you more than ever.

