



Partnership Agreement

between

Solihull Parent Carer Forum (TPCF) and Solihull SENDIAS Service

Section 1: The principles of our partnership:

- Shared belief in raising the quality of life, improving outcomes and opportunities for all disabled children and those with SEN and their families.
- Clarity over each other's respective roles and responsibilities
- Commitment to working together to support, train and empower parents to be their own voice
- Acknowledge the development of each other's practice
- Communication is open and honest and solution focussed
- Publicly supporting and championing each other

This is an agreement setting out how we can work together as individuals and organisations. The purpose of our joint agreement is so that families of children and young people with additional needs benefit from the best support, advice and meaningful participation opportunities possible enabling them to achieve the best outcomes.

Section 2: Each organisation's specific vision/mission/purpose/aims and/or responsibilities

Solihull Parent Carer Forum (SPCF) vision

Solihull is a borough where we, the parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, work together with professionals and have a strong voice to influence the strategic development of the way services are provided.

SPCF Aims:

1. To grow and maintain a wide **membership**
2. To collect and collate the **views and opinions** of parents and carers

3. To be the **voice** that informs commissioners and service providers about the needs of disabled children and their families
4. To take part in **dialogue** with service providers and feedback to parents and carers
5. To offer **constructive challenge** about current services and input to the planning of future service provision.

Solihull SENDIAS Service vision

The vision for Solihull SENDIAS Service is that children and young people with SEND, and their parents/carers, will be more aware of their entitlement and the options available, and will be able to make informed decisions.

Solihull SENDIAS Service aims to:

1. provide information, advice and support to children and young people up to the age of 25 with SEND
2. provide information, advice and support to the parents/carers of children and young people up to the age of 25 with SEND
3. provide impartial advice about matters relating to SEND, including issues relating to health and social care
4. offer support to parents/carers and children and young people with SEND in participating in decisions made about the child/young person's education, health and social care.

The service informs policy and practice at the LA and CCG level by working with parents, children and young people, the Parent Carer Forum and local voluntary groups and organisations. The service also offers training/information sessions to parents and carers (in collaboration with parent carer forums) to promote collaboration and partnership working.

Section 3: Our common Code of Conduct is:

- Behave with **respect** and **professionalism** towards each other
- Communicate in an **open, constructive and honest** way that is still diplomatic and not personalised
- Be honest when there are **challenges or differences** so that we can find a useful way forward that best enables parent carer voices to be heard.
- When tensions and disagreements begin to arise, we talk and find a solution at the earliest opportunity, and **put any learning into place** so that when the issues arise again we know how to avoid problems escalating.

Section 4: Our joint aims:

- to work together towards **shared and agreed outcomes** that make a positive difference

- to work together to **plan events and co-production activities** that
 - are timely and positive for parent carers and
 - all parent/carers feel involved in appropriately, respectfully and meaningfully
- to actively **signpost** parent/carers to each other's service
- to **meet at least 3 times per year** so that we can understand each other's work, capacity, priorities and plans and so that we can co-ordinate effectively
- to nominate someone within each organisation to be the **main link person** with the other organisation

This document was agreed on 9th November 2017

This document is due for review by December 2018

Signed by

(Name) on behalf of Solihull Parent Carer Forum

Signed by

(Name) on behalf of SENDIAS Service Solihull