



## Welcome from Martin Clement Head of Quality Assurance, Youth Justice and Performance

I'm Martin Clement, Head of Quality Assurance, Youth Justice and Performance. I sit on the children's social care leadership team, and I'm really pleased to share this month's updates with you. Understanding how SEND impacts children, young people, and their parents is crucial for all practitioners across Education, Health, and Social Care. It's a real privilege to write this intro, especially since I've dedicated my career to supporting the SEND service and children and young people with SEND. In my role overseeing the youth justice service, I've seen firsthand how access to quality education can help children thrive, achieve, and develop a strong sense of self.

I'm excited about the Children's Well Being Bill which is going through parliament and has a vision of closer working between teams supporting children, and in Milton Keynes we're always working on the strength of our partnerships, including those with you as parents of the young people in our area.

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## Activities and events

Please find a selection of events listed below, more can be found here [SEND calendar of events.](#)

[SEND Story time - Kingston library](#) 07.04

[SEND story time - Bletchley](#) 14.04

[Xtra Special Families](#) - 10.04

[Climb Quest Sessions](#) 06.04, 16.04

[Autism MK and Ragdolly Annas Music Fun](#) 11.04

[Gravity](#) 06.04, 09.04, 13.04, 16.04, 20.04

[The Parks Trust Easter Trail](#) 05.04

[The Parks Trust Easter Holiday Open Mornings](#) - Various dates over Easter holidays

[Thomley](#) have a variety of activities and events over the Easter period.

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## Spring Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2025 #HAF2025

Free activities and meals are available for children and families receiving **Free School Meals (FSM)** from 7-10 April 2025. With 7,500 sessions planned across Milton Keynes, options include sports, outdoor adventures, arts, and more. Book through the [online booking system](#).

For more information please visit [Holiday Activities and Food Programme 2025 page on the MKCC website](#).

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## SEND Strategy 2025 - 2028

Our Milton Keynes SEND strategy is coming to an end in August 2025, and we are excited to start shaping a new one.

We would like for you to take a look at our early consultation, where we share some initial ideas for the new strategy. It's a great opportunity to see how you can get involved and make your voice heard as we move forward together.

To share your thoughts and help guide the development of the strategy, you can complete a 1 minute [survey](#) (with a few optional additional questions if you have a few minutes more to spare", and there's also a survey for children and young people.



## Transport

### Reapplying Agreements 2025

You may receive a reapplying agreement over the next few weeks, this is to confirm you still require transport from September 2025 and are satisfied with the current support, not all families will receive a reapplying agreement, please refer to your original offer letter, if unsure please contact the team [STS@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:STS@milton-keynes.gov.uk).

Letters will also be sent out for children who may need to make a new application for September 2025 due to a New/change of placement or if attending a college setting.

## SEND Local offer

You can find helpful social care information on the Local Offer website! Learn about the [Children with Disabilities Team](#), [CwD Short Breaks Team](#), [Children's Social Care](#), support for [transitioning from children's to adults' social care](#), [Early Help](#), and much more—all in one place.



Social care information on the Local Offer

## Parents and Carers Alliance (PACA)

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete our Survey- **Mental Health Support for children/young people with SEND in MK**. We had an overwhelming response and



your feedback will help to support the update of our 2022 Healthwatch report that will be shared with service managers in the NHS to influence change.

Keep an eye out on our [events page](#) we would love to see you at one of our Steering Group meetings, online coffee and chats or on one of our upcoming Family coffee mornings.

We also have the below upcoming **presentation followed by a Q&A**

### **Relationships, Sex and Health Education for SEND parents.**

Wondering where to start with relationships, sex and health education (RSHE) and your SEND child? We are here to help! Alice Hoyle National Relationships and Sex Education Expert and SEND mum is offering a 2hour interactive online session to PACA MK PCF members on tips and tricks to having these conversations at home and how to enhance the RSHE they receive from school (if they attend school). The session will cover the early years to post 16 in a lifecourse age and stage appropriate approach so as long as your child is under 18 you can join us.

The session is primarily aimed to support parents of children and young people with mild to moderate SEND needs. If your child has profound needs there may still be useful content and Alice can signpost additional expertise and support.

To attend this session you will ideally need a secondary internet enabled device with a touch screen such as a phone or tablet to enable you to interact with the presentation (you can switch between screens but some people find it easier to have two). Bring a notepad and pen to note down some of the signposting and a hand out will be sent out after the session.

To book your place, please keep an eye out on our events page for the booking link. We will be running 2 sessions on 23rd April 10am -12pm or 28th April 7pm - 9pm . You will need to be a PACA member to attend, membership is FREE! And open to parent carers of children and young people with disabilities or additional needs aged 0 – 25 years, and who live in the city of Milton Keynes.

PACA Members receive regular information and newsletters to keep you up to date with local developments, events and activities. Complete our online form [HERE](#) Or, email us to receive a membership form [pacamk@gmail.com](mailto:pacamk@gmail.com)

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PACA met recently with Lisa Goss. A parent of a deaf child and the community connector for the [National Deaf Children's Society](#) in Bucks & Milton Keynes. Lisa brings understanding and experience to the journey families are on. She can provide direct support and help you access local resources and services, including those offered by the National Deaf Children's Society. We are very much looking forward to working alongside her to help families connect with other parents and deaf children in our community.

For families we know that building connections are incredibly valuable, so please do get in contact either via e-mail [Lisa.Goss@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:Lisa.Goss@ndcs.org.uk) or via call or text on 07989737031, she is happy to chat with you or answer any questions that you may have.