

Inclusion Ambassador Offer for Families

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INTRODUCTION

Contact me via email

Meet or chat on the phone to:

- Explain my role
- Share information about local groups/ activities
- Ask about your priorities to keep in mind when I am advocating for SEND children
- Share coproduction opportunities

SELF ACCEPTANCE

*Referral via education,
health or social care*

A common difficulty amongst young people is accepting being different. I can spend time with your child to explain what neurodiversity is (including conditions such as autism and ADHD) and hopefully help them realise that it is ok to be different.

An important part of this is giving feedback to people around the child for how they can be better supported. Examples of feedback include a CPD session, an assembly, a video or a meeting, where the young person can share directly, I can do it on their behalf or we can do it together.

For support in the home or community the referral can be from any service, but for support which involves feedback to the educational setting, the referral must come from the setting itself.

EHCP VIEWS

*Referral via education,
health or social care*

If your child is struggling with sharing their views in the EHCP process or does not understand why they need an EHCP and its purpose, I can help to explain why their views are important and support them with the process.

MY PRIORITIES

Wellbeing: SEND children and young people want the same things as everyone else, but they have more barriers to achieving them. I aim to actively identify and remove those barriers so that SEND young people have the same opportunities to thrive. One of the main barriers is **self acceptance:** It is important that SEND children and young people accept being different, rather than being ashamed of it. But this is difficult when there is not a positive open dialogue about their differences. Self acceptance is also so much harder when the people around you don't accept your differences, so that is a focus of my work too.

Coproduction: Coproduction is about making sure young people are not just listened to, but that action is taken based on their views; whether this is on an individual level, at school or across the Local Authority

Who Am I?

HERE IS A BIT OF INFORMATION ABOUT ME!
FIND OUT MORE AND ACCESS RESOURCES BY
SEARCHING 'INCLUSION AMBASSADOR' ON THE BURY
LOCAL OFFER



Ask me about The Umbrella Gang, a free comic which aims to teach 6-12 year olds about neurodiversity in a positive way

"Being autistic means you have to live a different life, but that doesn't mean it has to be an unhappy one"

Hi, my name is Andy. I have lived and grown up in Bury and I am autistic.

I was very academic in school but struggled with other aspects of school life. When I was younger I was desperate to fit in and be like everyone else.

But trying to be someone you are not is not sustainable. Despite getting the best GCSE's in my school (8 A*'s and 3 As), I really struggled at university which led to me dropping out during the second year of a Psychology degree; failing two of my first semester exams and not attending the other two.

Since then, I have realised the only way I can be happy and thrive is to stop trying to fit in and accept myself as I am, and I want as many SEND children and young people as possible to realise this too so they can live the happiest lives they can.