**From:** Deborah Richardson <deborah.richardson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk> **On Behalf Of** Palvinder Kudhail  
**Sent:** 08 March 2022 14:15  
**To:** {CS-SD-Comms} <mail-cd-sd-comms@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** No. 18: Bi-weekly communication from Service Director - All staff must read this

Colleagues,

As you will be aware, the local authority received the notification of the Ofsted Local Area SEND inspection last week. The inspection covers all services across education, health and social care that support children with SEND and inspectors will be carrying out a range of inspection activities over the course of this week. Many of you will have been involved in recent work to ensure a number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children open to social care were of sufficient quality and up to date. I would like to thank everyone who supported this work. It was a fantastic example of collaborative working across services and ensured our children are best placed to receive the right support for their needs. Well done!

I also want to touch on the tragic and shocking events taking place in Ukraine. Last week the Council lit up The Gateway building in blue and yellow in support for those suffering and the Ukrainian flag will be flying at a number of Council offices. There will be many of you who may want to pledge financial support and you will find a link to the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fa-helping-hand-for-ukraine%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=oHBaj6uvHoLyMstVOXI%2F2q99OeDmptbIvvNSdLmExq4%3D&reserved=0) for those who may wish to make a donation to help the people of Ukraine and the refugees forced to flee the country. You will also find ‘Support for Ukraine’ MS Teams backgrounds that are available for use [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fhow-to%2Fit%2Fteamsug%2Fmicrosoft-teams-background%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=3MSvqzM36d6UkhIp06xqP73qOyTnpsPX2e9TGA2ZLI4%3D&reserved=0). Please remember If you have friends or family in the Ukraine and are finding the developing situation worrying please do use the [health and wellbeing support](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fmy-council%2Fhealth-and-wellbeing%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=BhGVKCPL%2FelqnN2ukEOdZ7WsEfrXNgMsYiuceLHNg4c%3D&reserved=0) available on The Source, including 24/7 access to our employee assistance provider, [PAM Assist](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fmy-council%2Fhealth-and-wellbeing%2Femployee-assistance-programme-pam-assist%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=avjX%2BMVE1%2FOaw6CHYgNV0tNY%2ByZDcJ3FNpypqDnd6Gg%3D&reserved=0).

As always, please take the time to read these communications and have discussions in your team to ensure that everyone is clear about what is included.

**National Social Work Week**

To celebrate and support **National Social Work Week** - **14th-18th March 2022** we have provided a timetable of different events that you can get involved in. These include sessions run by Social Work England, Skills for Care and Community Care inform, that we thought would be of interest as well as many more events that can be accessed through the links included in the schedule attached.



A massive thank you all for the great work you do along – let’s showcase and promote the excellent work that is making a real difference to children and families. We have chosen to place a focus on the events scheduled for Social Work week to focus on practitioners well-being as we are aware that if we don’t look after ourselves as best we can, we are not able to offer the true value of ourselves to our children and families. The well-being aspect is an area that fits well with this year’s theme.

The theme for Social Work week 2022 is **‘Social Work and Me’.**

**Key themes**

1.           What social work means to me: views from lived and learned experience, keeping the professional standards at the core

2.           Reflections on the last year and what’s next for social work: looking back at social work in England during 2021

3.           Celebrating World Social Work Day. The theme of World Social Work Day 2022 is ‘Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind’

**Objectives**

•            Have the voice of people with lived experience central to the week, setting the tone of our focus on protection of the public

•            Facilitate conversations about raising standards in social work, promoting professional identity and building confidence in the profession

•            Encourage the sector to contribute to the week and deliver independent events aligned with the core programme and themes

•            Enable conversations and collaborate with those with an interest in social work around our strategic ambitions.

Your feedback on the events for the week will be welcomed and will be followed up after the week. We hope you enjoy the week and thank you again for all that you do for the children and families of Buckinghamshire.

**Being a Buckinghamshire Manager**

A series of 90-minute 'Being a Buckinghamshire Manager' (BABM) workshops are taking place with all managers, agency and permanent, expected to attend one workshop. They are face-to-face sessions to support you to lead your teams to perform at their best. They will cover, LEADER behaviours, PACT values; holding regular, supportive C4P conversations; and understanding your role in relation to diversity and inclusion. Please can you ensure, if you haven’t already, that you make arrangements to attend a session at a time that suits you. You can book through accessing the [learning hub.](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbuckinghamshirecouncil.learningpool.com%2Flogin%2Findex.php&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=8OnFoZZqjfa9NmZoYSANHG7%2BVON3q5uq9Lkr77QFf5c%3D&reserved=0)

**Bags available for our care-experienced children and young people**

We want to make the moving experience as positive as possible for children and young people in care. We know that supporting children to take their belongings with them safely and respectfully can help at this difficult time, whether they are new into care or moving between homes.

We are delighted to have been given **300 pack-away travel bags** from social enterprise Madlug ([https://www.madlug.com/pages/our-story](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.madlug.com%2Fpages%2Four-story&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=H87eB9hSN4wZbeDT1DM1lMNvGYW038DxlsGIugGcNPs%3D&reserved=0)), that we can give to children and young people in our care, or care leavers, when they move.

We would encourage all of you who work with care-experienced children and young people to collect a supply of the bags. They are small, pack-away size means they can be easily stored in a car boot for when needed, without taking up too much space.

The bags will be available at the following locations:

Aylesbury: 2nd floor

Amersham: 1st floor

Wycombe: Ground floor

Please contact [charlotte.lundie-sadd@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](charlotte.lundie-sadd@buckinghamshire.gov.uk%20) or [cypplacements@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](cypplacements@buckinghamshire.gov.uk%20) to arrange a collection time.

**Familial Sexual Abuse and Sex Offenders**

Familial or Intrafamilial sexual abuse refers to sexual abuse that occurs within the family. In this form of abuse, a family member involves a child in (or exposes a child to) sexual behaviours or activities. The ‘family member’ may not be a blood relative, but could be someone who is considered ‘part of the family,’ such as a godparent or very close friend.

In recent months, instead of doing a traditional case file audit on an inter familial child sexual abuse case, a practitioner learning event took place with all the practitioners (across different teams) that had had involvement with this family. The review sought to explore and consider how risks around familial sexual abuse are assessed and managed, how this is evidenced in practice and recording and to consider any further tools, resources and training which practitioners could benefit from. The learning from this review can be accessed [here.](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fproceduresonline.com%2Ftrixcms%2Fmedia%2F6714%2Flearning-event-sexual-abuse-may-2021.docx&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=fLsoMAmHP5OhAD093N6f26s0cO%2BV2IDhFt4L5PrcfMM%3D&reserved=0) When reflecting on this case, and others seen since, there remains a need to consistently improve our response to children and young people who are considered to be at risk of, or have experienced, sexual abuse.

**When working on these cases:**

* **A risk assessment is required of the offender**
* **An ability to protect assessment is required of the protector(s)**
* **Evidence that professional curiosity and thinking the unthinkable is applied in the case**
* **Name it… and record it… Clear rational… As a manager ensure oversight and grip is present.**

Please review your current caseloads and ensure that you have done **all of the above** to assure yourself that children are safe. To support and assist you we have uploaded some information, guidance and tools for practitioners. These can be accessed in the [Local Resources folder in Tri.x](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.proceduresonline.com%2Fbuckinghamshire%2Fchservices%2Flocal_resources.html&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=zzbVB%2FfEBvUWRv%2FF4N93dgcvu2EQkxZ%2Fm1XW1ht7nsM%3D&reserved=0) and include:

* A [support booklet](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fproceduresonline.com%2Ftrixcms%2Fmedia%2F6647%2Fonline-abuse-family-pack.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=9D3wDSFTImPVF4jAT3DQnSJ%2FJSLOrRR8YCCg4dypmzo%3D&reserved=0) that we can share with families where familial sexual abuse has been identified as a risk.
* A [crib sheet](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fproceduresonline.com%2Ftrixcms%2Fmedia%2F6648%2Finternet-sexual-offending-crib-sheet.docx&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=zf1NYDE7I0QzYkv4mFNoGO4SNLkFFv3UzeaD%2Fr8ogSI%3D&reserved=0) about internet sexual offending to use with families. This is particularly relevant for the MASH when dealing with new referrals.
* A [template](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fproceduresonline.com%2Ftrixcms%2Fmedia%2F6646%2Ftemplate-for-ability-to-protect-assessments.docx&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=BkR5oXqsQplh5T3FyfoZd9wWDUV2rupbhZnX6fAcX18%3D&reserved=0) (with guidance included) on undertaking assessments on non-abusing parents/carers to assess their ability to protect.
* Information about training for practitioners.

In addition, the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse have recently published [a guide](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.csacentre.org.uk%2Fknowledge-in-practice%2Fpractice-improvement%2Fcommunicating-with-children-guide%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=4IMZIXgjNBvMcJKLtQL0IKwAm7RUZuujY176VaEIwO8%3D&reserved=0) on communicating with children who have, or may have been, sexually abused. Please take the time to read this helpful guidance and consider how to apply the learning when working with our children and young people.

**Children Missing Education**

As a Local Authority, we have a duty under section 436A of the Education Act 1996 to establish the identities of children in our area who are of compulsory school age but who are not registered pupils at a school or receiving some other form of suitable education. Children who are classed as CME are at increased risk of not reaching their full potential, being harmed or exploited and also becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) as they get older.

The Children Missing Education team works with schools and other partners (both within and outside the local authority) to confirm all Buckinghamshire children are receiving an education. This includes trying to locate pupils who have left a Buckinghamshire school without a new school destination.

Please contact the CME team ([childrenmissingeducation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:childrenmissingeducation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)) if you have any concerns that a child living in Buckinghamshire is not receiving an education, either at a school or otherwise.

Please note, if a child is on roll at a Buckinghamshire school, and their location is known to be in Buckinghamshire, then this is considered an attendance matter rather than CME – attendance queries should be directed to the County Attendance Team ([countyattendanceteam@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:countyattendanceteam@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)).

**Case transfer to the Family Support Service**

We all want a child’s journey through universal, targeted and specialist services to be as smooth and time limited as possible. Step-down enables children and families to receive the appropriate level of support from Family Support Workers and partner agencies to build resilience and support networks in and around families, whilst working together to prevent needs escalating.

Where a case is identified for transfer to our Family Support Service (provided threshold is met), this should be discussed with colleagues from the Family Support Service as soon as possible. Going forward, the Family Support Worker should be invited to the final CIN meeting or to the final assessment visit. This will enable consent and engagement to be gained, the family to be introduced to the Family Support Service and a collective view shared about the identified needs and support plan. **This approach will mean that a joint visit to the family will no longer be required.**

Please ensure where a case is identified for transfer to the Family Support Service, the decision to transfer the case is taken in line with the agreed [case transfer protocol](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fproceduresonline.com%2Ftrixcms%2Fmedia%2F6860%2Ftransfer-protocol-august-21.docx&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=%2BcfzEeocLC%2Bon4y2YlIquq9rJbHicd%2B4FveFvHnCepY%3D&reserved=0).

**Coaching for Performance**

As we near the end of this year’s Coaching for Performance cycle, managers must ensure end of year review meetings are scheduled to provide staff with a provisional performance rating based on their performance and behaviours over the past year. Employees must have completed all mandatory training to receive a rating of ‘Achieving’ or above. Performance ratings must be entered on SAP by 31 March at the latest (including for employees who are currently absent from work). You can find further information [here](https://youandwork.buckscc.gov.uk/coaching-for-performance/).

**Family Time Service**

Please find attached updated Covid-19 guidance for the Family Time Service which includes the latest safety measures in respect of supervised contact. Please ensure you have a read of this information and familiarise yourselves with the revised safety measures.



**The Gateway Foundation Holiday Scheme**

Over the last year, we have been working with The Getaway Foundation (TGAF) Charity to provide free Parkdean Resorts holidays to families we have been working with and, as a result several families that have worked with Help and Protection or the Family Support Service have been able to go on an all-expenses paid holiday in 2021.

We have been informed that TGAF have secured additional funding which means we are able to offer a limited number of further holidays. These holidays can be taken between Easter and Summer 2022 but must be booked quickly.

The referral criteria is families who:

•            have a low income

•            have not had a holiday in the last 3 years

•            have engaged and made positive progress on a plan

The holiday covers the cost of accommodation, transport and a prepaid card to the value of £100 per child and £150 per adult for food and activities during the holiday.

The referral form is attached and we will be allocating the holidays on a first come, first served basis. As the family’s social/family worker, you will be expected to complete this referral with the family, help them book the holiday and liaise with the family, TGAF and us to ensure everything runs smoothly.

Holidays can be 7 days or mid-week short breaks i.e. Monday – Friday and can accommodate families up to 8 people.

Things to consider before referring:

•            The Applicant Supporter on the referral form is the social/family worker, the Family Applicant Lead is the    parent/carer/person booking the holiday and who will be the main point of contact.

•            The form has to be signed for the funding to be released and we can do this via digital e-signature.

•            Caravans are 3 bedrooms max so, for large families, some people may have to sleep on a pull out bed in the main living area - will this work/be suitable for the family you are considering referring?

•            Any additional needs – i.e. is an additional bedroom (max 3 available) needed because there is a child with ASD who needs their own space. Does the transport need to take additional needs into account? Include as much info on the referral form as possible.

•            Age range of children – the holiday parks have a range of activities on offer which tend to be aimed at younger CYP so consider if the referral is suitable for families with only teenagers.

•            The vouchers provided can be used to pay for food and activities however they will not cover the cost of all food and they DO NOT cover the purchase of alcohol.

Referrals should be sent to Romilly Knight ([romilly.knight@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:romilly.knight@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)) in the first instance.



**#LookCloser**

The Children’s Society have developed a programme of learning bringing together key research on tackling child exploitation as part of its #lookcloser campaign. A number of free learning sessions are available over the next two weeks. You will find the full programme of events including details of what each session will cover and how to enroll in the attached flyer.



**The Household Support Grant (Helping Hands)**

The Household Support Grant continues until 31 March 2022 and the team are able to assist with the following (subject to verification checks taking place):

•            Food

•            Fuel (gas/ electric/ water)

•            Grants to assist with debt – particularly but not exclusively – rent/ council tax/ gas/ electric/ water arrears

•            White goods

•            Beds/ Mattresses

•            Winter clothing

Referrals can be made by professionals or by the public so please continue to access support via this route for those children, young people or families that are in need. Referrals to the Helping Hands team to support families should be made via the online referral form (which can be accessed here) or via telephone on 01296 531151. You will also find attached details of the eligibility criteria and a hard copy of the referral form. Please make sure, where you encounter a family who would benefit, you refer them to the team or support them to make a referral directly. We need to make the most of this support whilst it is available.





**Employee benefits**

Please remember there are some fantastic [employee benefits](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fmy-council%2Fhealth-and-wellbeing%2Foffers%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=pXxxivIu9lzgGFtUJ3ZRBO6YMji%2B8Y3yXC2xogIh68A%3D&reserved=0) available to permanent staff including:

* Tusker’s Car Benefit Scheme

The scheme allows employees to swap some of their salary before tax for a brand new car that is fully maintained. There is never a deposit to pay and everything is included, insurance, all servicing, maintenance and repairs, MOT costs, road tax and breakdown assistance. In fact, the only extra thing you need to pay for is the fuel.

How to apply

Visit the [CPC Drive website](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cpcdrive.org%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=cHUVaXE5UwTIWcL3pcw%2FseLfcuus6uN%2Bny1byPxVTIY%3D&reserved=0) and create an account using company code BCC1 and your Employee Number (you can find this in SAP on your payslip) or call Tusker on [0333 400 7431](https://intranet.buckscc.gov.uk/0333%20400%207431). Individual eligibility will be checked on application. You can find more information on the [Tuskers cars website](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftuskercars.com%2F%23login%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Ftuskercars.com%2Fabout&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=diZw2MYxs3AqXVBOzX%2BevbIuo%2Bh29VMIyDp4boxX6DY%3D&reserved=0).

* Travel Choice Discount Scheme

All Buckinghamshire Council staff benefit from 50% discount on single and return fares on bus services run by the below operators on journeys which start or finish in Buckinghamshire and 34% discount on Chiltern Railways train services by showing their Buckinghamshire Council staff swipe card when boarding or purchasing the ticket. The discount is valid for one single or return ticket only. Staff must state ‘BC travel choice return or single’ when purchasing their ticket.

Arriva

Carousel

Redline Buses

Red Eagle Buses

Red Rose Travel

Star Travel

Z&S Transport

* Chiltern Railways Leisure Travel

Staff can use your Buckinghamshire Council swipe card to purchase off-peak discounted tickets for you and up to 3 other adults and 4 children from any Chiltern Railways station. These include journeys to London and all stations to Birmingham Moor Street including the new Oxford Parkway Station. Staff must ensure they keep their Buckinghamshire Council swipe card with them when travelling. Without this the discounted ticket will not be valid.

**LGBT+ History Month 2022**

In February we celebrated LGBT+ History Month 2022, increasing the visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (“LGBT+”) people, their history, lives and their experiences in the curriculum and culture of educational and other institutions, and the wider community. This year’s theme was ‘***Politics in Art – The Arc is Long***’. On [the source](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Finternal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk%2Fmy-council%2Fequality-diversity-inclusion%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=ykPZox24izdc%2FPIZe60fX3ksAfx0U6HQZwHh6WvKwfY%3D&reserved=0) we have launched a LGBT+ History Month Page which links with this theme, and also includes a wealth of information and important resources for all to access. In addition, Buckinghamshire Council has a network for members of the LGBT+ communities and its allies. It is a safe space for members to meet to allow for supportive interaction. For more information on joining please contact [equalities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

For the young people we work with, specific youth clubs and other similar services can provide an important space for LGBT+ youth to form their own identity and understand their sexuality in a safe space at a young age. Also having LGBT+ role models and friends can assist with the common feelings of isolation.  Below are just some of the resources which could be beneficial to LGBT+ Youth in Bucks;

* [https://aylesburyvalelgbt.co.uk/services-1](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Faylesburyvalelgbt.co.uk%2Fservices-1&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=XrBFUrm9R4Ho2%2Fu8H%2FZ9pCTz1KGr2R56eVRNEQOPPUo%3D&reserved=0) – Buckinghamshire Council is currently in negotiations with Mermaids, LGBT+ Bucks and SupportU to provide a much needed LGBT+ Youth Group in Aylesbury so watch this space!
* [https://www.mosaictrust.org.uk/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mosaictrust.org.uk%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=lV3%2BjAvZcg2L7g9djSHRVLaDLyEb6bVBtWOykXjQwgs%3D&reserved=0) - A service based in London but who take referrals from anyone who may benefit from their help, including for online counselling.
* [https://gids.nhs.uk/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgids.nhs.uk%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458735930303%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=UEFIkvMz%2B%2Fo%2BT6XvSVZYoHOvac5jIno18eafWzj8kA0%3D&reserved=0) - Gender Identity Development Centre - a highly specialised clinic for young people presenting with difficulties with their gender identity.
* [https://www.stonewall.org.uk/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.stonewall.org.uk%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458736086539%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=Ltd1r8xXsJmleOnGlLmkErVJ3q1rXNJduZLQ4X2hzv8%3D&reserved=0) - An organisation championing the freedom, equity and potential of LGB+ people everywhere.

In addition, [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ccinform.co.uk%2Fpractice-guidance%2Fgender-and-sexuality-ensuring-social-work-meets-lgbtq-peoples-needs%2F%3Fpractice_guidance%3Dgender-and-sexuality-ensuring-social-work-meets-lgbtq-peoples-needs%23038%3Bpost_type%3Dpractice_guidance%26&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458736086539%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=VJLSRGnosaaxoMSx91EktFle%2F9aYJb0XtDYgeb7xOFs%3D&reserved=0) you will find a helpful guide on working with LGBT+ Young people.

Buckinghamshire also has resources in place to support LGBT+ adults:

* [LGBT+ Café](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.healthylivingcentre.com%2Fevent%2Flgbtq-cafe%2F2022-02-24%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458736086539%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=vqOoZcJxvdXpVZwhak0cCg3O0XZvaRjMTUuS2M%2BVZds%3D&reserved=0) at the Healthy Living Centre, Amersham
* [Buckinghamshire Mind](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bucksmind.org.uk%2Fcategory%2Fguide%2Fsupport-services%2Flgbt%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cromilly.knight%40buckinghamshire.gov.uk%7Ce5e5afc1ddaa469f23f908da010e0d17%7C7fb976b99e2848e180861ddabecf82a0%7C0%7C0%7C637823458736086539%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=KWIYatuBC%2F%2B06SOaKuLxLlfSMiYBVD8UR8jZibhIvxM%3D&reserved=0) LGBT+ Services

Have a wonderful week.

Palvinder

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