Bedford Borough Think Autism Action Plan for 2015 /2016 Priority 1 – Employment, Education, Training and Volunteering

Outcome	Actions	Responsible Organisation/ Officer	Target Date
Employment "I want support to get a job and support from my employer to help me keep it"	 Discuss with HR any changes to make the recruitment process more autism friendly (leading the way for other employers) 	BBC Commissioning	All responsible organisations to feedback at the first partnership board (end of
To achieve: • Opportunities of employment	 Investigate developing communication links with the BBC Communications Team about employment/apprenticeship opportunities 	BBC Employment Support Team	quarter 1) in 2016
 Autism organisational awareness Recruitment processes 	 Work with Bedford Job Hub to identify employment/apprenticeship opportunities for people with autism across Bedfordshire and the surrounding areas 	BBC Employment Support Team/Job Hub	
reasonably adjusted in the areas the partnership can influence	 Ensure all necessary staff trained in Autism Awareness 	Job Centre Plus, Job Hub	

Job Centre Plus

• Work with local providers and BBC

• Reasonable

adjustments by employers	Adult Learning Disability Team to	
employers	develop a way of showing that	
	individuals have ASD	
	 Develop a self sustainable way of working with adults with autism regarding employment further to the 1 year European Social Funding awarded in August 2014 – July 2015 	Autism Bedfordshire
		Job Centre Plus
	 Provide job opportunities in a bulletin that can be circulated to the partnership board 	• Job Centre Plus
	 Market and provide training to local businesses, companies and providers 	Autism Bedfordshire
	 Identify employment/apprenticeship opportunities for people with autism across Bedfordshire and the surrounding areas 	Autism Bedfordshire
	 PoHwer to market advocate services to people with autism across Bedford Borough to providers, statutory services, customers and carers 	• PoHwer

	 In addition to other supported employment teams Autism Bedfordshire will offer employment support and guidance about ETEV options for adults who enter their employment programme. Autism Bedfordshire to help provide support for individuals within 	 Autism Bedfordshire Autism Bedfordshire 	
	 employment to retain their post under the access to work scheme. Autism Bedfordshire to act as a point of contact for all ETEV opportunities locally 	Autism Bedfordshire	
Outcome	Actions	Responsible Organisation/ Officer	Target Date
Education "I want people to recognise my autism and adapt the support empowered by services and to be as independent as possible"	 Market and provide training to local college staff, university and other educational providers Continue with the Autism Support Pathway at Bedford College 	Autism BedfordshireBedford College	All responsible organisations to feedback at the first partnership board (end of quarter 1) in 2016
To achieve: • Further education to have autism friendly	 Provide work experience opportunities for students (including coffee shop/restaurant and i-pad/IT 		2010

 Reasonable adjustments so students with autism can participate in educational opportunities Staff aware of autism Students aware of their rights as their move across the education sector 	 Maximise marketing opportunities and develop a promotion strategy Investigate possible in-house and external work experience opportunities and in partnership with the BBC Employment Service Engage with other higher education providers in Bedfordshire to support the autism agenda. 	 Bedford College Bedford College Bedford College Bedford College 	
Outcome	Actions	Responsible Organisation/ Officer	Target Date
Training "I want people to recognise my autism and adapt the support empowered by services and to be as independent as possible"	 Investigate supported internship opportunities Investigate supported internship opportunities 	 Bedford College BBC Employment Service 	All responsible organisations to feedback at the first partnership board (end of quarter 1) in

To achieve: Reasonable adjustments so people with autism can participate in training opportunities Apprenticeships In job training tailored to people with autism Autism friendly marketing of training opportunities	 Market and provide training to local businesses Market advocacy services to people with autism across Bedfordshire Investigate supported internship opportunities 	 Autism Bedfordshire PoHwer Autism Bedfordshire 	2016
Outcome	Actions	Responsible Organisation/ Officer	Target Date
Volunteering "I want support to get a job and support from my employer to help me keep it" and "I want to know how to connect with other people."	 Investigate volunteering opportunities across Central Bedfordshire Investigate internal volunteering opportunities 	BBC Employment Service BBC Adult Learning Disability Team	All responsible organisations to feedback at the first partnership board (end of quarter 1) in 2016

To achieve: • Opportunities for volunteering	Work and advise BBC Employment service around personal budgets to support employment outcomes	BBC Adult Learning Disability Team
 Autism organisational awareness 	Bedford College to investigate the use of volunteers to support their service	Bedford College
 Volunteering recruitment processes 		
 Reasonable adjustments by employers 		