



Down's Syndrome Association

A Registered Charity No. 1061474

A Conversation with Families

Monday 5th August 2019, The Langdon Down Centre, Teddington

'Securing the Future and the role of family: three successful strategies based around personal stories'

We are delighted to welcome parent, Bridget Sneddon, to speak about inclusion in adult life.*

The meeting will be followed by an exchange of information about activities in the South/South East

All welcome, 10:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

To book your free place email training@downs-syndrome.org.uk a.s.a.p.

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| 10:45 – 11:00 | Introductions |
| 11.00 – 12:30 | 'Securing the future' with guest presenter Bridget Sneddon * |
| 12 :30 - 13:00 | Light lunch |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | South/South East support groups meeting |

*Alex Snedden's family has learned that it matters who makes the decisions; how to make best use of time and resources; and that safeguarding arrangements can make all the difference in the world.

Bridget Snedden is the Mum to Alex who is 32 years old and has Down syndrome. Following his birth Bridget and Garry quickly realised the need to create a life for Alex that was different to prior generations. It was a time in history when it was the start of 'inclusion' and pioneering new ideas took courage and resilience for families of children with disability. Alex' parents wanted him to have a life that followed a similar path as his siblings. They wanted Alex to have a strong sense of belonging in his local neighbourhood. They wanted him to be educated alongside his neighbours and friends.

To make this happen they recognised the importance of building strong relationships and having allies to walk with them. Bridget knows what it takes for families to think about; what's possible, to plan for that possibility and then to make it happen for their disabled family member. Bridget believes in community first; and that roles, networks and relationships are key elements for inspired thinking and planning. .

Bridget brings more than 25 years' experience of working in the disability sector. She has held both management and governance roles in small and large organisations in New Zealand. She has an unwavering commitment to the full inclusion of disabled people and it is her commitment to social justice and belief that every New Zealander has the same rights to live and enjoy a life like their neighbours and friends that guides her decisions. Bridget is currently Vice President of Down Syndrome International and Director of Family Network NZ.

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