

No Wrong Doors

Supporting Young Carers & their families in Worcestershire

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Commissioning Manager: Young People

3490

Hidden From View.....In Plain Sight

- A more joined up approach through bringing together commissioning of services for young and young adult carers (previously separated) between Children's and Adults Services
- Recognition and support from County Councillors
- County Council committed to support – no reduction in level of funding at a time when money available to the council is reducing
- Continuing focus on reducing the burden of caring and increasing wellbeing, independence and achievement of Young Carers
- BUT we still need to reach more Young Carers and raise the awareness of others – **3490** is our *minimum* target group

Raising Awareness - Increasing Recognition & Referral - Joining Up Support

- **Young Carer Aware** online learning package has gone live made available to a wide range of workers and organisations (Schools, County Council workforce, Health, VCS and other key partner agencies) http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/YoungCarerAware/launch_nolms.html
- **Young Carers in Schools Award Programme** (Carers Trust) <http://www.carers.org/young-carers-schools>
Worcestershire succeeded in becoming one of just a few local authorities to launch and pilot this programme.
Continu consortium of schools (Wyre Forest) are our “Trailblazers” and Worcester 6th Form College are key partners.
- Developing clearer, more joined up pathways for Young Carers and their families *No Wrong Doors*, no gaps in transition and communication between services for children and young people and those for adults
- A new agreement (“*Memorandum of Understanding*”) between Directors of Children’s and Adults Services to make sure they work together and avoid gaps when Young Carers reach 18 years old

Care Act and Children & Families Act are live : April 2015

- Whole family approach to needs and support
- Young and young adult carers have the same rights to assessment and support as those they care for
- Eligibility to an assessment for all Young Carers who need or request it
- Opportunity to join things up better and use other resources and support including Early Help, Stronger Families, Social Care, Health and other specific services that can contribute to meeting the needs of Young Carers.
- No Wrong Doors, clearer pathways

Key role for Young Carers

- Effective participation and engagement of Young Carers in informing policy and service development and helping to quality assure services
- We need to keep working together e.g. Young Carers Focus Group, Young Carers Champions, YSS support staff etc.
- Support and increase the voice and influence of Young Carers
 - e.g. consultation with and inclusion of Young Carers for the first time in revised all-age Worcestershire Health & Wellbeing Board's forthcoming new *Worcestershire Carers Strategy*
- Evaluate pilot phase of Young Carers in Schools and consider roll out to more of Worcestershire's schools and colleges
- Shape and inform new commissioning specifications for 2016-17 to ensure fit with new legislation and timelines for commissioning of other services for young people (e.g. Positive Activities)

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Worcestershire Children's Services

Education Services | Early Help and Partnerships | Children's Social Care

Helping children and families to achieve their potential in a safe environment so that they lead successful lives

