

Appreciative Inquiry Recommendation Lead Update

Ellen Parkin

Recommendation 4

Identify and support young carers

Research:

- Ensure a clear system for identification becoming known to schools and the support services
- Embedding a consistent offer of support for young carers within schools. What does that look like?
- 3a. Mapping with schools to understand what their knowledge is around young carers and
- 3b. Identify what support they would need to develop a robust offer of support within their setting.

Communication

- Awareness raising across schools around young carers and the role of schools.
- Ensure that the profile of AI is raised within Operational Group as a standard agenda item.

Events:

- Young carers conference to be held annually.
- Raise the agenda and profile of young carers internally.

Action Taken

Development of young carers card; this has been coproduced with young carers accessing Eastern Ravens service

Five task-and-finish group meetings have taken place, each exploring how awareness of young carers within schools can be strengthened.

As part of this work, a school questionnaire assessing baseline understanding of young carers' needs was circulated to all Stockton-based schools. Although the response rate was limited, the findings clearly demonstrate a need for further training, which can be delivered through Eastern Ravens.

What is Working Well

Mandatory E-learning which will sit in My Development has been produced. This can be accessed by SBC staff.

Eastern Ravens, as the commissioned young carers support service, report a notable increase in requests from schools for assemblies, staff training, and online delivery. During this period, 15 primary, secondary schools and college's have received interventions, representing a marked increase on the previous year

Review of the Strategic Partnership Terms of Reference and regular meetings are being held.

Our Learning

Persistent approach around raising awareness is needed and is the focus of the strategic partnership. We know a strong communications strategy is needed to support this and will be focus over the next term.

It has been recognised that frequent staffing changes within services impact on knowledge, the development of accessible E-Learning for staff will help address this.

The partnership governance structure is being revised to enable a stronger focus on operational delivery. As part of this change, two distinct groups will be established: a strategic group responsible for overall direction and oversight, and an operational group, focused on implementation and day to day activity.

Following an adult review of the pathway between young carers and adult carers services, a review commenced to ensure clearer and smoother transition between the services.

Impact so far

Positively after an event in a college a young person stepped forward and recognised that they are a young carer; given their age support was to access an adult carers assessment. This resulted in the young person being given some money to access activities to allow for some respite from caring.

Ian Ramsey has a dedicated email for communication with Eastern Ravens and identifying young carers.

Any questions?