

County Durham Young Carers

charter

RED ROSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Background

Red Rose Primary School is based in Chester le Street. The school has approximately 200 pupils on roll with ages ranging from 4 to 11 years. The school currently holds a number of awards including Healthy Schools and the Sport England Activemark. Their most recent Ofsted inspection rated the school as Outstanding and commented that *'Red Rose is an outstanding school where pupils reach high academic standards and excellent levels of personal development.'*

The school motto is *'Aim High, Be Proud At All Times.'*

Staff within Red Rose Primary School understand some children and young people may have caring responsibilities at home which, at times, impact on how they are feeling and coping at school. Therefore everyone in the school is working hard to provide a supportive environment where young carers are encouraged to come forward. This positively promotes this group of learners who are highlighted as of particular interest to Inspectors from Ofsted in making judgements of how the school is currently performing.

Raising Awareness of Young Carers

Achievement of gaining Young Carers Charter accreditation was accepted by Mrs. Bainbridge, Headteacher.

Mrs. Bainbridge attended an awareness session delivered by a member of The Bridge Young Carers Service in June 2015. This awareness session allowed the service to outline who a young carer could be, what a young carer does, the positive and negative impact, signs that young people might be caring, the barriers they experience to learning and how schools can help to support young carers. It is important that teaching staff are aware of these issues, as

they are often the people who will have the greatest opportunity to spot the signs and identify the problems at home.

Mrs. Bainbridge has subsequently shared this information with colleagues in school to raise awareness among other staff members of young carer issues. Mrs. Bainbridge also acts as Young Carers Lead within the school clearly stating the support available to young people with a caring responsibility is held at a high level in Red Rose Primary School.

Should any young people prefer not to speak to Mrs. Bainbridge, they are also able to speak to Miss. Bradley, a Teaching Assistant who has received additional training in Connecting with Children and Relax Kids to support young people experiencing emotional issues.

(Young Carers Charter Pledges 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 12 & 13)

Evidence of Support for Young Carers

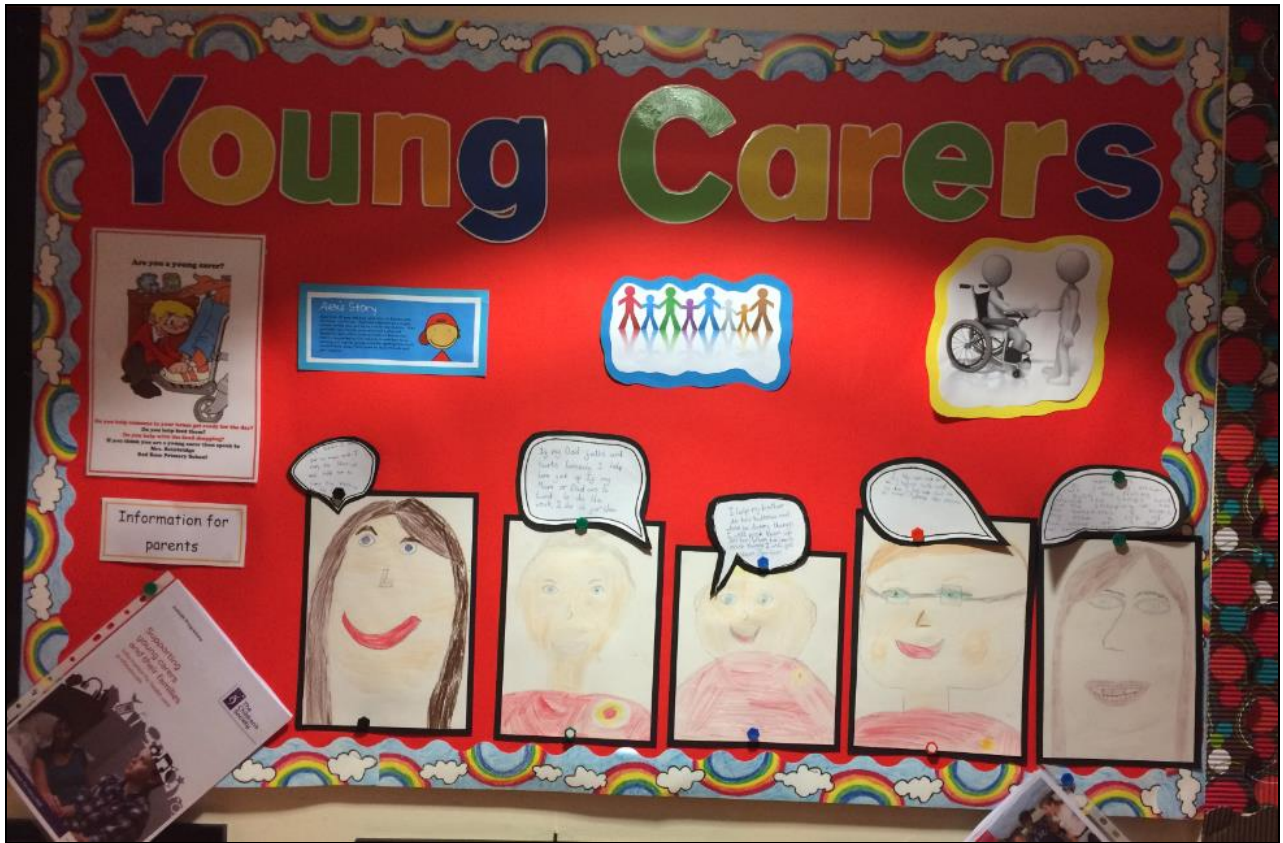
The school has put in place a number of measures highlighting their support for young carers and encouraging them to come forward.

I was privileged to meet with seven young people from Red Rose Primary School as part of the evidence gathering process; these were Maisie, Courtney, Harvey, Elizabeth, Isaac, Dominic and Joseph. All of the young people represented the school incredibly well and were a credit to Red Rose Primary School. Scanned copies of their feedback can be found in the appendices for information.

Noticeboard

Red Rose Primary School has a large Young Carers noticeboard in one of the corridors in school. It is accessible for all pupils in the school and has been decorated with pictures from members of their young carers group.

The noticeboard also contains additional information from The Children's Society that parents are able to take off and read. There is an additional leaflet for young people to get information on nutritious recipes they are able to make, should they wish to do so. This allows the older children to gain additional information on more healthy food should they be in a position to have to make meals for the family / cared for person.



(Young Carers Charter Pledges 2 & 4)

Awareness

As you walk around Red Rose Primary School, among the beautifully decorated corridors and noticeboards, there are a number of posters that outline information on young carers, and who the children and young people are able to speak to if they feel they are a young carer and would like additional support. The group I spoke to were able to outline knowledge of these posters; some of which have been located in helpful areas such as where the young people queue for lunches so they go past the information on a very regular basis.

(Young Carers Charter Pledges 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 10 & 13)

Assemblies

Mrs. Bainbridge delivers regular assemblies to the whole school. As part of these assemblies Mrs. Bainbridge has invented 'Helen', a young carer who lives near Mrs. Bainbridge. This allows Mrs. Bainbridge to talk about Helen and the tasks she carries out as a young carer. In

doing this Mrs. Bainbridge has been able to bring the world of a young carer to life for the pupils at Red Rose Primary School.

When I met with the group of pupils they were able to outline a number of key points of what being a young carer means and the tasks they are often required to carry out. The approach Mrs. Bainbridge has taken in introducing Helen to the school appears to have worked incredibly well. The children were also able to openly talk about a previous young carer within their school, who has now moved elsewhere, but whom they obviously learned a lot from regarding their caring role and how they were responsible for supporting others within their family. The children were able to articulate this information very well in our group meeting.

(Young Carers Charter Pledges 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 & 13)

Young Carers Policy

Red Rose Primary School has a young carer's policy in place that has been ratified by governors in November 2016. The policy will be reviewed annually. A copy of this policy is available at Appendix One for information.

(Young Carers Charter Pledge 5)

Young Carers Group

Red Rose Primary School has decided not to implement a young carers group. It was felt this did not fit within the ethos of the school and so they have chosen to operate a 'drop in' opportunity for children and young people. This is regularly communicated to the pupils by means of assemblies and the pupils were able to confirm they were aware of this drop in facility when I spoke to them.

When I questioned if they felt this was a suitable level of support for young carers they confirmed it was currently, but felt that should a large number of young carers come forward it may need to be reviewed as limited numbers of people supporting the drop in may struggle to offer support to a large number of young people if it was needed. Again, it was great to hear the pupils in school thinking ahead about the support young carers may need if their numbers were to increase in school.

Maisie outlined the school does not have a young carers group but that ‘..there is good support.’

(Young Carers Charter Pledge 1, 2, 3 & 11)

Young Carers Card

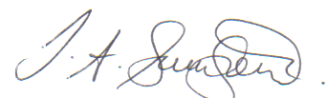
Red Rose Primary School has the Young Carers Card scheme in place. They would actively use the suggested card for any young carers in school who feel they would like to make use of a card. This has been used in the past to great advantage, but at the present time, no young people feel they require a carer’s card to be issued to them.

Summary

County Durham believes that Young Carers are young people first and carers second. They have the same rights as all other children and young people and should have access to the same facilities, services and support that is available to other young people across the County. However, young people who are also carers have other needs, which Red Rose Primary School obviously supports. Therefore it is our pleasure and privilege to sign the County Durham Young Carers Charter with Red Rose Primary School.

A report written by James York
Young Carers Therapeutic Practitioner & Early Help Lead
Family Action - The Bridge Young Carers Service

Date: 23rd January 2017



Julie Scurfield
Strategic Manager,
Durham County Council
(On behalf of County Durham’s Young Carers Steering Group)
Date: 20 February 2017

Appendix One

Red Rose Primary School

Aim High

Be Proud



Young Carer's Policy **Red Rose Primary School** **Aim High** **Be Proud** **www.redroseprimaryschool.com**

At Red Rose Primary School we believe that all children and young people have the right to learn, enjoy and achieve, regardless of what is happening at home.

We have developed our Young Carers Policy to show how we will support any pupil who helps to look after someone at home and to demonstrate how we will try to relieve some of the worries which young carers have about home and their school work.

Defining a Young Carer:

A young person under 18 years of age who helps to look after a family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill or has a substance misuse problem.

Caring can involve physical or emotional care, or being responsible for someone's safety and wellbeing. The level of responsibility assumed by a young carer is often inappropriate to their age and beyond the level of simply helping out at home as part of the process of growing up.

Our Young Carer's Policy was developed with help from the Young Carers Action Group and members of staff from Red Rose Primary.

Red Rose Primary School acknowledges that there are likely to be young carers and being a young carer can have an adverse effect on their education.

Young carer's might experience:

- Being late or absent because of responsibilities at home
- Concentration problems, anxiety or worry in school
- Emotional distress
- Tiredness in school
- Lack of time for homework
- Poor attainment
- Becoming angry or frustrated

- Isolation - feeling no-one understands
- Bullying
- Low self esteem

We will

- Have a designated member of staff with special responsibility for young carers: Mrs S. Bainbridge and Miss Bradley.
- Inform new pupils that the designated member of staff is: Mrs S. Bainbridge and Miss Bradley
- Put young carers in touch with the local Young Carers Service.
- Run PSHE lessons on the challenges faced by young carers
- Respect the right to privacy and only share information with people who need to know in order to help a young carer
- Follow child protection procedures regarding any young carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring
- Allow young carers to telephone home during breaks and lunchtime
- Ensure that staff are aware of the warning signs which may indicate that a pupil is a young carer
- Be accessible to parents/carers who have mobility/communication difficulties and involve them in parents' evenings.
- Make reasonable adjustments to school life to ensure our young carers are able to achieve but are well supported.

Approved by Governors: November 2016

Date: Thursday 26th November 2016

Review Date: Annually



Mrs Bainbridge



Joseph

Green Mrs. Beinbridge and Miss. Bradly. At home
a parent.
Red. You have to look after the ill person.
Blue. Outside the conferece room.



Dominic

Get some medicines for them. Getting
everything for them. You can talk to miss
Bradely. young carer coming into 90 School





ISAAC



- A young carer is when you do lots of jobs for people, and if they poorly or not well help them.
- In school you can talk to Mrs. Bambridge about being a new carer.
- There should be more school carers like a young carer coming into school every month.



Young carer



yes it does help with the caring role.

Ella is very helpful.

Look after parents if ill.
Just outside of the classroom.

Speak to:

↓
Mrs Bainbridge

&
Miss Bradley

↓
Bridges for young carers.

Elizabeth

I think they need more help and people in young carers.

assemblies

She helps

young carer helper helps and comes in every once a month

She looks out for her mam alot.
= Elta Jorsite



young carers

Looks after
these Parents

Talk to
Miss Bradley &
Mrs Bainbridge
Building bridges
for young carers

Someone come in
often

We do have a
young carers group

You can find
the notice
board is
outside the
Staff room

Harvey



Counselling

- A Young carer is when somebody is ill you do the jobs they can't do. If they are really poorly you can look after and bring them breakfast.
- Mrs Bainbridge and Mrs Bradley.
- Yes and I do not need anyone.

• NO but we have Mr Bradley and Mrs Bainbridge to look after us
Drop in we

Counselling



Maizie.p.

- young carer means you look after people.
- We can speak to Mrs Bainbridge, Miss Bradley, Ms Kendall and James.
- There is enough support and it would be good if someone else that works for young carers could come in.
- we don't have a young carers group but there is good support.



Young Carers Charter – Self Assessment

Organisation:	Red Rose Primary School Aim High Be Proud
Date:	2 February 2016

Thank you for committing to the pledges within the Charter.

This document is an opportunity to map out where you currently feel your organisation is, where you think work needs to be undertaken and what support you require.

Pledge	Current Position	Actions Needed (if any)	Support required (if any)	Leads	Timeframe
1. We do not make assumptions about what young people need, but will listen to what young carers tell us about their lives and support them to play a full part in life, as well as support them in their Caring role.	<p>School policy completed and is monitored by senior managers and governors.</p> <p>We listen to our children and respond in a sensitive manner. Regular messages are placed on the school newsletter reminding parents that we are aware that some of our children are Young Carers.</p> <p>Posters are displayed around school highlight our commitment to Young</p>	<p>To continue to develop our strategies for identifying Young carers at Red Rose Primary School.</p> <p>How to encourage more children to come forward as Young Carers.</p> <p>Create an information board for Young Carers. Young Carers to help design the board.</p>		<p>Mrs Bainbridge but Miss Bradley to provide additional support.</p> <p>Miss Bradley is trained to deliver Connecting with Children and Relax kids.</p> <p>Plus our Col worker, Mrs Minto, is trained within these areas but can provide emotional one to one support for children we suspect could be a Young Carer.</p>	<p>Whole School Ethos.</p> <p>On-going.</p>

Review Date: December 2016

	<p>Carers.</p> <p>Mrs Bainbridge, HT/SENCO/Child Protection Officer is the named person who all Young Carers can access.</p> <p>Staff meetings – Monday evening and staff briefing every Friday enable Mrs Bainbridge to share information to all staff. In addition staff can share their concerns.</p> <p>Support staff have been trained to deliver “Connecting with Children and Relax Kids therapy.”</p> <p>Create an information board for Young Carers.</p>				
2. We encourage young people to tell us that they have a caring role and will support those who come forward.	<p>Whole school policy exists at Red Rose Primary School – monitored by Governors and senior managers.</p> <p>As Headteacher, I manage our schools support for Young Carers and review their daily</p>	<p><u>ACTION</u></p> <p>Induction evening for reception intake make information available to all new parents.</p> <p>Highlight the main</p>	<p><u>SUPPORT</u></p> <p>Need contact details of guest speakers who could assist us.</p>	<p><u>LEADS</u></p> <p>Senior managers</p>	<p><u>TIME</u></p> <p>June 2016</p>

	requirements and needs. This is reviewed daily, weekly, termly.	contact person: Mrs S. Bainbridge			
	Our Meet and Greet Sessions, each morning, ensure support staff and senior managers are available to monitor access into school, late arrivals and pupil absence- sometimes this is the initial trigger.	Head teacher/Senco. Invite guest speakers into school to share their own personal experiences. (Assembly presentation)			<u>Summer term 2016</u>
	Mrs Minto, COL worker, provides emotional support to target children.	Ensure at least one whole school assemble is delivered each half term highlighting Young Carers.			
	HT/Senco makes direct referrals.				
	Miss Bradley and Ms Kendal provide excellent emotional and medical support. Once again HT/Senco makes direct referrals.	Add assemble themes to termly diary dates so all staff are aware of them all.			<u>Starting Summer term 2016</u>
	Posters displayed around school relating to young carers. Regular information is added to newsletters.	Create an emotional drop in/counselling service during the lunch break – once a week. Miss Bradley/Mrs Bainbridge to support			<u>Starting after Feb. half term</u>

	Information added to web site regarding Young Carers;	this provision.			<u>2016</u>
3. We can identify young people in our organisation who have told us they are young carers.	<p>Yes, due to our excellent relationship with parents.</p> <p>We have an open door policy.</p> <p>Meet and Greet sessions.</p> <p>Extended support is provided by the senior leadership team e.g. home visits, transport home, and chair meetings in school.</p> <p>Team around the family meetings provide additional information.</p> <p>Access to homework club is monitored and Young Carers can access this provision.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>After information is shared with senior managers regarding Young Cares information will then be added to our Young Carers, Register.</p> <p>Record progress and therapy received.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior managers</p>	<p><u>Timescale</u></p> <p>Will be in place by Feb. half term 2016</p> <p><u>On-going.</u></p>
4. We have identified member(s) of staff who are responsible for ensuring that young carers in our organisation are supported	<p>Mrs Bainbridge (Head teacher is the lead professional.</p> <p>COL worker: Mrs Minto provides emotional</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>To ensure all staff receive the required support and training.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Head teacher</p>	<p><u>Timescale</u></p> <p>On-going and in many areas</p>

and able to access help.	<p>support.</p> <p>Miss Bradley trained to deliver Connecting to Children/Relax Kids.</p> <p>School nurse: Mrs Scott</p>			Senior manager	this is already in place.
5. Young people have helped us design a policy showing how our organisation will support young carers.	<p>Policy was constructed but we need to incorporate pupil's views.</p> <p>This is an area in which we require further work.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Once we have our Young carers group up and running then I feel we will be in a stronger position to incorporate their views.</p> <p>Review next year as part of the annual policy review.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Further work is required within this area.</p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Young Cares Group</p>	December 2016 to review policy and incorporate pupil voice.
6. We are working to ensure that all other policies are designed taking into consideration and giving recognition to what young people do in their caring role.	<p>When writing policies all staff need to add a statement relating to Young Carers.</p> <p>In addition, adaptations need to be considered in relation to how they access various aspects of the curriculum if</p>	<p><u>Action:</u></p> <p>To incorporate a Young Carer's Statement in all school policies.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Headteacher</p> <p>Senior Managers</p> <p>Subject leaders</p>	Summer 2016

	adaptations are required.				
7. We ensure that everything young people tell us about their caring responsibilities stays private and confidential unless we have their permission to share, they are unsafe or at risk of harm.	<p>This is our whole school policy.</p> <p>Reviewed by governors and senior managers.</p> <p>Safeguarding training completed regularly.</p> <p>Level 2 Safeguarding completed by Mrs Bainbridge Headteacher and Mrs Brinton Deputy Headteacher.</p> <p>Excellent relationship exists with all our pupils and staff.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Young carers can be anxious that staff may discuss their situation in front of others.</p> <p>Respect a child's view.</p> <p>Respect a child's home situation.</p> <p>Review our confidentiality policy and create consent to share information form.</p> <p>Remind staff at Whole School briefing that information which is shared should be handled confidentially and not be gossiped outside out school.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p>Leads</p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior leadership Team</p> <p>Young Carer's Committee</p>	Spring term 2016.

		(Setting out professional standards. To all staff)			
8. We make arrangements for all our staff, who may come into contact with young people who are carers, to be aware of the issues and also be aware of any special arrangements in place.	<p>Staff meetings incorporate key information.</p> <p>Senior management meetings provide an ideal opportunity to share information regarding individual cases and adaptations that are in place.</p> <p>Whole school briefing sessions, every Friday, provides our school with an opportunity to discuss/share/gather information about specific cases.</p> <p>Plus access to additional clubs can be and is made available such as the homework club.</p> <p>Strengthen our links with The Bridge Young Carers.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Continue with whole school briefing.</p> <p>Head teacher and senior managers to provide support for carers during the lunch time sessions and break times.</p> <p>Add information sharing sessions with senior manager – Wednesday evening.</p> <p>Link up with the Bridge Young Carers/families termly.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior managers</p> <p>SENCO</p>	Summer term 2016.

<p>9. We try to make sure that young carers can be contacted or make contact with people they are caring for.</p>	<p>Posters displayed around school highlighting named contact.</p> <p>Web site information names contact.</p> <p>Plus all senior managers have laminated contact cards which may be required.</p> <p>Plus the construction of A Young Carers Information Board.</p> <p>Meet regularly with Young Carers.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Notice board constructed.</p> <p>A team of Young Carers created.</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p><u>Headteacher</u></p>	<p><u>Spring term 2016</u></p>
<p>10. We agree arrangements with individual young people, based on their personal circumstances, which recognises that they may have to arrive late or leave early but also ensures that we know where they are and that they are safe.</p>	<p>Head teacher, Senior leaders and governing body understand issues relating to young carers and their families.</p> <p>A whole school approach.</p> <p>We, as a school, make adaptations based on the pupils needs. This approach does not apply</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Continue to strengthen the practice we already have in place.</p> <p>Continue and develop CPD for support staff and senior managers.</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Mrs Bainbridge</p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior managers</p>	<p><u>On-going</u></p>

	<p>to just young cares but the whole school community.</p> <p>We, as a senior leadership team, offer support with home school transport, breakfast, toast for later arrivals, VIP passes for pupils who require additional activities during lunch and break-times.</p> <p>Pupils are directed to spend time with COL worker, Mrs Minto, for 10 minutes catch up/emotional support.</p> <p>If additional emotional support is required then senior managers and head teacher direct pupils to specific staff.</p> <p>Detachment issues: Mrs Robinson/Miss Bradley.</p> <p>Connecting with children:</p> <p>Miss Bradley/Mrs</p>				
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	<p>Laws/Mrs Minto.</p> <p>Special tasks are presented to children/young carers during lunch break.</p>				
<p>11 When young carers need extra help and support we will help find this extra help and check with them how it has gone.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Approach is the same as above.</p> <p>After sessions delivered to pupils senior managers review impact.</p> <p>Pupils will be directed to specific adults.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Head teacher and senior managers to direct appropriate support for young Carers.</p> <p>Miss Bradley</p> <p>Mrs Laws</p> <p>Mrs Minto</p> <p>The Bridges</p> <p>School nurse</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior Managers</p> <p>Governors</p> <p>Support staff</p>	<p><u>On-going</u></p>
<p>12. We will work with other organisations to support young carers and their family including contributing to assessments where appropriate.</p>	<p>All senior managers have their own agencies contact cards which speeds up access to appropriate agencies.</p> <p>We have a good working relationship with social services and our school</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>To strengthen links with agencies we already work with.</p> <p>To extend our partnership work with other agencies.</p>	<p><u>Support</u></p>	<p><u>Leads</u></p> <p><u>Head teacher</u></p> <p><u>Senior managers</u></p>	<p><u>On-going</u></p>

	<p>nurse.</p> <p>Head teacher to make appropriate referrals to Young Carers at the Bridge.</p> <p>Access to counselling with James York.</p> <p>Head teacher attends network meeting for school wishing to gain the Young Carers Charter.</p>	Tow work with The bridges Young Carers			
13. We will speak on behalf of young carers to help people understand what young carers do.	<p>Head teacher leads by example but our aim is to ensure we all understand issues relating to young carers and their families.</p> <p>We need to secure and maintain a commitment to developing our whole school approach for young carers. It is essential we go above and beyond what is expected of us all.</p> <p>Aim to achieve the Young Carers Charter.</p>	<p><u>Action</u></p> <p>This commitment is already in place but we need to continue with our approach and determination.</p> <p>Gain the Young Carers Charter.</p>	<u>Support</u>	<u>Leads</u> <p>Head teacher</p> <p>Senior leaders</p> <p>Governors</p>	Whole school approach.

It is clear Red Rose Primary have really prioritised raising awareness across the school community of the needs of young carers. The Headteacher, as the lead, demonstrates the significance and importance that is attached to this by the school.

The policy was very clear and owned by the Governors. The involvement of the children in giving consideration and feedback to the issues was very positive and shows that the school have taken excellent steps to listen to the voice of their children.

Well done Red Rose.

Julie Scurfield

Strategic Manager

Durham County Council