

# **United Against Bullying School Case Study: Putting support in place for Young Carers**

## **How Bannerman Road Community Academy improved identifying and supporting Young Carers and their families**

### **Context of our anti-bullying work**

We completed the UAB audit last academic year and identified that we had very little support in place for Young Carers and any potential bullying that they could be experiencing. Whilst we had addressed this by rewriting our policy to include YC, we were aware that we were providing very little support in school.

### **What we hoped to achieve**

We would like Young Carers to feel respected and have a safe place to come and speak to staff. We would like YC to be identified in a respectful way and not singled out. I would like them to be receiving all the support they are entitled to and have a clear robust way of identifying YC. We are hoping to get a Gold award through the audit and the work we have carried out.

### **The action we took**

- We have signed up to the career support centre and have completed a baseline audit. We have discussed our potential YC at each and every vulnerable group meeting (held weekly).
- We have arranged a staff training session for 23 February and an assembly for the children on the same day.
- We have held coffee mornings for parents.
- We have created a drop-in for YC to come at lunch times and each carer has a dedicated point of contact.
- We have a very clear referral process for teachers and SLT and they are on our priority contact list so should they not be in school we make them a priority to see if there is anything we can help with to get them in.

### **Impact and outcomes of the work**

The YC's attendance has improved. From pupil voice we have completed they feel more supported and safer. We have been able to identify more YC and through the robust referral process we now feel confident that we can identify any children that become YC. It is now a standing agenda item on our vulnerable groups meeting and is discussed termly at Governors.

Staff and children feel supported, and I would expect this feedback to continue now we have a clear and robust policy and referral process.

### What we have learned

Identifying YC must be quite specific to meet the YC threshold. Looking after a sibling is not enough – it has to be physical and emotional support, and this has to be evidenced really clearly for referrals to be accepted.