

Rotherham Young Carers

Title:	Barnardo's Rotherham Young Carers (Quarter 4 2021-2022)
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1. SERVICE DELIVERY

- 1.1** We are pleased that we have exceeded the agreed target of 50 new cases opened within the year. The overall situation was helped by relaxation in Covid restrictions meaning schools and other agencies were more willing and able to allow visits and sessions to take place on their premises. Although the situation has improved, due to the high current level of infections we continue to have sessions cancelled or deferred due to ill health or failed Covid tests. As our young carers may live with others who are vulnerable, we are continuing to follow robust risk assessments and adhering to safety procedures.

Virtual groups have been offered to children each week to offer some focused support and the opportunity for some social interaction with peers. We are pleased that in-person groups will now resume this month.

We have been able to make use of additional Barnardo's funding to provide school clothing grants and have distributed a number of donated devices such as tablets and mobile phones along with advice on safety and setting up parental controls on these devices.

1.2 Covid Outbreak Management Fund (COMF)

COMF funding has been agreed and representatives from the service and RMBC met with Councillors in a Health Select Committee to discuss how the funding will be utilised. Next meeting with the Council is on 19/05/22.

1 - We appointed a new team member in November and her induction is complete and she has begun casework with children and families. This additional casework capacity has been reflected in the caseload figures below.

2 - Wellbeing packs have been delivered to 38 children as the referral is accepted and they are placed on the Waiting list. These packs contain a range of helpful resources for children and are designed to support the emotional wellbeing of the child whilst they await individual support and intervention from the team.

3 - Weekly on-line support groups are being offered to the children awaiting their support to commence. There are two groups, one for older and one for younger children. These sessions are held early evening and serve as an opportunity for the child to begin initial engagement with the practitioners and the chance to cover relevant topics such as how they are coping overall, any common school issues and to share some social time on-line with other young carers. Younger children are also engaging in some joint on-line games within the sessions, but the older children are understandably not wanting this within their sessions. Attendance at these groups fluctuates.

4 - First Aid Training - 8 children attended this bespoke training in the February Half term.

5 - We have had service information leaflets translated into Urdu and these are now ready for wider distribution. (see copy)

1.3 Collaborative working

Regular TAF/CIN/Core Group/Case conference meetings continue to be held virtually with staff attending and contributing to plans supporting young carers and their families (some are now held face-to-face)

Staff continue to be in contact regularly with the wider Barnardo's teams based at Nightingale court via telephone or e-mail, sharing ideas and information for remote working with children and young people, to enable the continued delivery of best practice.

There have been occasions where staff from one Barnardo's service at Nightingale Court (Young Carers), have been able to identify support needs of a young person they are working with within another Barnardo's service (ReachOut/Trusted relationships) and visa-versa. Internal referrals have been made and the joined-up interventions have proved to have very positive outcomes.

Joint working with Social Workers and Early Help workers has continued during this period, to ensure the children and young people we support receive the best possible co-ordinated support to enable them to achieve their full potential.

Rachel Jackson the RMBC Early Help Lead on NEET young people attended our team meeting on 22nd March, and we have already been able to liaise with her to obtain support for young carers.

1.4 Transition to Adulthood

Staff continue to work collaboratively with Higher Education Progression Partnership (Hepp) which works across the Sheffield City Region to encourage more children, young people and adults to consider higher education opportunities.

Where identified, staff have supported and encouraged parents/carers of young carers, to attend virtual sessions delivered by HEPP to support them with their child moving on to university. Staff at RYC have completed a 'Nomination Form' for Sheffield Hallam University. The form is specific to young carers (also young people with disabilities/Care leavers/LAC and other young people with additional needs/barriers) to access support as a young carer through the application process and when they commence university.

Team members supported 2 young carers to a 2-day event in March held jointly by Sheffield and Hallam Universities aimed at encouraging young carers to apply for university and addressing their potential needs and issues.

1.5 Activities

No social activities took place in the February half term, but Easter social events are scheduled.

1.6 Staffing and Training

Regular, collaborative work with schools has continued. Practitioners have given guidance specific to working with young carers in school to ensure young carers are fully supported in school and at home. Practitioners have also been proactive in ensuring young carers have received extra support with education and pastoral support where needed.

Practitioners have also accessed and completed Restorative Practice Training. Practitioners have already been able to put this training into their practice where relationships have broken down, creating stronger families.

Staff have accessed training on trauma and working with children with additional needs.

1.7 Young Carers Council

The Young Carers Council have held 2 in person meetings during this quarter. They jointly visited the Truth to Power Café event at the Civic Theatre in February.

In March, Sarah Christie co-ordinator of Children's Capital of Culture for 2025 attended the meeting to update on progress and seek views from the children.

We have also made links with Campbell McNeill who is leading on the Rotherham Carers Resource Pack as he is keen to ensure that young carers voices form part of what is designed and offered across Rotherham.

1.8 Participation

VIP meetings

Staff are attending on-line VIP meetings, working in partnership with other services for children, young people and families. The purpose is to strengthen the voice of the child in systems and processes that can impact on their lives and those of their families. Information from the meetings is then fed back to the Participation group at Barnardo's to ensure the group are included in any appropriate projects involving children and young people in Rotherham. This group consists of young people from all Barnardo's services in Rotherham, including Young Carers, supported by staff. The group is active in informing and developing the services and being involved in different aspects of Barnardo's work.

Rights Advocacy and Participation (RAP) Forum

Staff are also involved with Rights Advocacy and Participation (RAP) Forum, within Barnardo's. Staff from Rotherham Young Carers have been able to share their knowledge and practice around this subject with the forum. At present the group are looking at examples of good practice when consulting with young people and how this can be improved by encouraging more young people to participate and gain their voices to influence service delivery.

'The Borough That Cares' Strategic Group

The RYC Team manager also attends this monthly strategic forum chaired by RMBC. An individual meeting has also been held with Jo Hinchcliffe – Co-ordinator, here at our base and we are contributing to the Rotherham Carers Strategy.

National Young Carers Forum

A Team member attends the National Young Carers Forum each quarter to share information and keep updated on new research and developments.

1.9 Additional Support: Barnardo's grants etc

Young Peoples Grants

- Sofa bed & Bedding - £158
- Cooker - £180
- School Clothing - £200
- Laptop - £205

Vouchers

- Asian Supermarket vouchers - £40

- Love to Shop - (thank you re art exhibition)- £20
- Love to Shop- Family furniture -£50

2. OVERVIEW

23 Y P have been worked with during Q4

54 Y P have been allocated between 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

3. REFERRAL INFORMATION

3.1 21 new Referrals accepted in this quarter to Rotherham Young Carers.

3.2 REFERRAL INFORMATION for Q4 - 1st March 2022 to 31st March 2022

Please see data below recorded at point of referral:

3.3 Source of the Referral

Source of the Referral	Q4 referrals
Social Care	7
Education	7
Health	2
Family	4
Voluntary Agency	1
TOTAL	21

3.3 Disability Given at Referral

3 Young People were identified as being on the autistic spectrum at the point of referral.

3.4 Gender

Gender	Q4 referrals
Male	6
Female	15
Other	0
TOTAL	21

3.5 Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Q4 referrals
White British	20
Mixed Black Background	1
TOTAL	21

3.6 Age of Referrals

Age	Q4 referrals
7 - 10 years	6
11 - 14 years	12
15 - 17 years	3
TOTAL	21

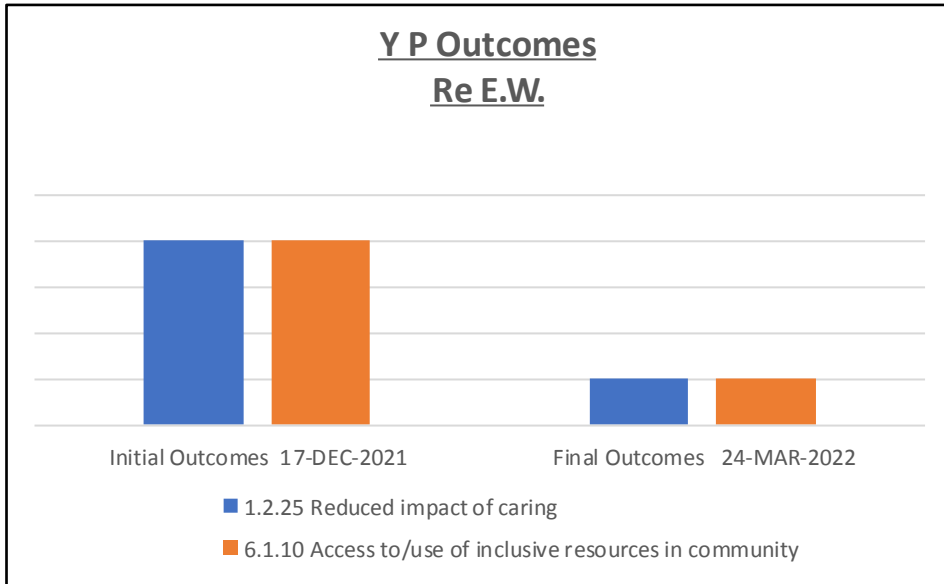
4. POSTAL AREAS / DISTRICTS

4.1 Children and Young People waiting allocation = 25

Waiting List		Cases currently Open	
Bramley	1	Aston	3
Brampton	1	Brampton	1
Canklow	1	Brinsworth	1
Eastwood	1	Canklow	3
Kimberworth	1	Dinnington	2
Kiveton Park	3	Eastdean	3
Maltby	3	Eastwood	2
Ravenfiled	1	Greensborough	1
Rawmarsh	4	Herringthorpe	3
Swinton	2	Kimberworth Park	2
Thrybergh	1	Kiveton Park	2
Thurcroft	2	Rawmarsh	5
Thurnscoe	1	Swallowest	4
Wath-upon-Dearne	3	Swinton	4
TOTAL	25	Thrybergh	1
		Thurcroft	3
		Wath	4
		Wickersley	1
		TOTAL	45

EVIDENCE OF CASE OUTCOMES

4.1



4.2

