



Nottinghamshire  
Carers  
Association

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## Carers in Education Case Study - Collaborative Working between Nottinghamshire Carers Association (NCA) and our partners

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### Retford Oaks Academy, Active Notts & Nottinghamshire Carer Association

Retford Oaks Academy (ROA) is an average sized secondary school with 1100+ students in years 7-13. The Academy has numerous feeder primary schools and a number of primary schools which are outside the schools catchment and is part of the Diverse Academy Trust.

Active Notts work with partners to empower people to be active in a way that works for them and are funded by Sport England, along with the local authorities within Nottinghamshire to support this work.

### The Challenge

The challenge was in identifying young carers within the Academy. Introducing support designed and supported by Active Notts, ROA and NCA to these young carers to provide opportunities to be active in their daily lives.

With a collaborative approach how can we best provide the support that young carers want and need?

### Actions in Support of Young Carers

Actions in Support of Young Carers - The priority was to give the young carers a voice to afford them the opportunity to design their own program.

Continue the strong links within ROA and the young carers with a view to being a best practice partnership/collaborative working template for other projects across the Nottinghamshire.

### The Solution & Impact

Working closely together the Retford Oaks young carers lead, The PE and School Games Organiser for Bassetlaw, The Young People lead for Active Notts and the Education Liaison lead for Bassetlaw have:

- Met and discussed planning to effect the best support of young carers to remain or get active.
- Staffing issues and support have been discussed and planned to be a working module.
- Identified a number of young carers who would be interested in such a project.
- The school games organiser and young people lead for Active Notts met and discussed with a number of young carers.
  - i) What being active meant to them?
  - ii) What they did currently to be active? what activities?
  - iii) What activities they would like to participate in?
  - iv) What barriers are there to being active as a young carer?
- Further meeting between organisation leads to discuss findings from carers responses. Agreement to further broaden the size of the group being offered the provision via other secondary schools.

### Next Steps

The collaborative working team have a target date of half term 4 (April-May) to begin the 'Keeping Young Carers Active' support program.

### Feedback

We are very excited to be moving forward with this project working with our partners Retford Oaks Academy, Active Notts and of course our young carers.

Mr Andy Tomkins - Nottinghamshire Young Carers - Education Liaison Bassetlaw



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