

Maiden Erlegh School wins award for young carer support



Maiden Erlegh School has been given a Silver award for their work to make sure students do not miss out on an education because they are young carers.

The Young Carers in Schools programme helps primary and secondary schools improve outcomes for young carers and celebrates good practice through the Young Carers in Schools Award.

“We are committed to supporting this inspirational and extremely generous group of young people. In the spring of last year, we were awarded the Bronze Award and I am very proud that we have now gained Silver. I should like to thank Claire Nimmo who has spearheaded this work at Maiden Erlegh.” Mary Davies, Executive Headteacher.

The 2011 Census statistics revealed that there are just over 166,000 young carers in England, but research reveals that this is just the tip of the iceberg. The true figure could be closer to 700,000 young carers in England, equivalent to one in 12 school children many of whom are unrecognised and unsupported.

Giles Meyer, Chief Executive of Carers Trust, says: “Schools play a vital role in a young carer’s life, but many care for relatives without their teachers even knowing what they do. On average young carers will miss half a day of school each fortnight as a result of their caring role, so the steps schools take to identify and support them can have a huge impact on their learning, wellbeing and life chances.”

Maiden Erlegh School would also like to thank the local Tesco’s who have consistently provided ingredients for them to help students cook healthy meals for their families.