



Staffordshire Together for Carers Service

A Young Carer is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person. They often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult.

Young Carers have significantly lower educational attainment at GCSE level – an average of one grade lower than their peers.

Young Carers experience particular challenges and demands that impact their capacity to enjoy and achieve at school.



We also offer a **Carer Friendly Mark** to schools to recognise commitment to identifying and supporting Young Carers.

The **Carer Friendly Mark** sets out key criteria which schools must meet in order to gain the award.

Each criterion has a set of **minimum standards** which an allocated Assessor will use to **support your school** to evidence your commitment to supporting Young Carers.

Staff Training

We can deliver a **Young Carer Awareness raising session** for staff which can be between 30-60 minutes long and 2 hour **Carer's Champion training** for an identified staff member or small group of staff. These can be delivered **face to face** or **remotely**.

The Carer Awareness training aims to raise awareness of:

- **Who Young Carers are** and why so many are hidden.
- The **potential impacts** of caring responsibilities on a student's achievement and wellbeing.
- How to **identify, signpost and support** Young Carers.

The Carer's Champion training covers this as well as how to embed best practice for supporting Young Carers in to your school structure.

Student Assemblies

We can deliver school assemblies for all year groups. **Through our assemblies, we aim to:**

- **Raise student awareness** about who Young Carers are and the sorts of caring responsibilities they may have.
- **Support students** to recognise if they are a Young Carer and how to get help.
- **Help students to understand the challenges** faced by Young Carers and **the impact of being a Young Carer**

As many as **27%** of Young Carers aged 11-15 miss school

It's reported that over one quarter of Young Carers are forced to miss school and **experience educational difficulties** due to their caring responsibilities.



Young Carers are more likely than the national average **not to be in education, employment or training (NEET) between 16 and 19.**

We Care

We are offering a **bespoke schools programme** which aims to support individual schools to **identify Young Carers** and **provide intervention** for Young Carers in school through a course for small groups of students.



1. Identification

Schools can **identify** a small group of **Young Carers** within a Key Stage.

Book a We Care Course and refer the Young Carers to Staffordshire County Council for a Statutory **Young Carers assessment**.

2. 1 to 1 Statutory Carers Assessment

will be carried out by a **Young Carers Assessor** from Staffordshire County Council for each Young Carer. With family consent, assessment will be shared with Staffordshire Together for Carers Service to enable us to **create a bespoke programme for the Young Carers in your school.**



3. We Care Course

A 6 week group intervention which aims to help Young Carers **understand and manage their caring role** and develop a peer **support network** of other Young Carers within your school community.



The course is tailored to the needs of the Young Carers and may include:

Understanding the caring role

Developing coping strategies for managing emotions around the caring role

Providing information and developing understanding about the illness or disability of the person they care for

Communication skills

To find out more about Staffordshire Together for Carers Service please contact us on:

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