



Overview of the rights for young and young adult carers and supporting access to opportunities

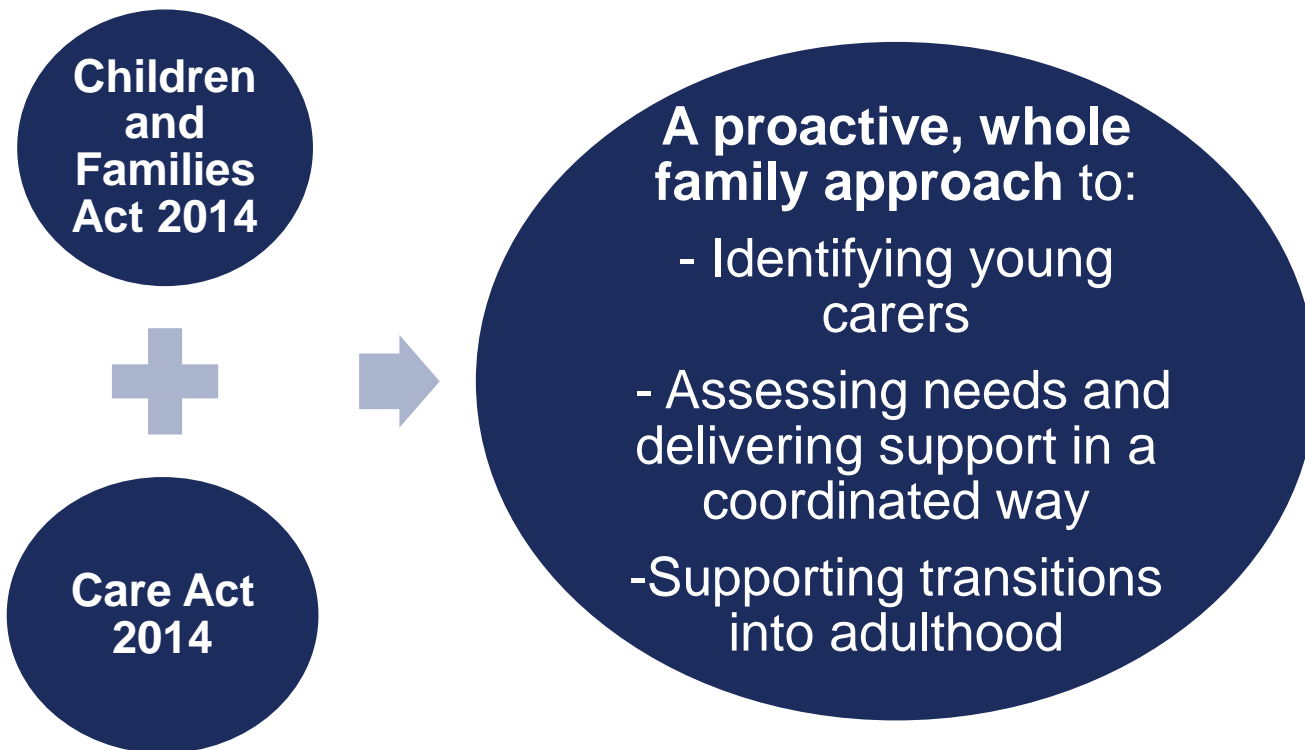
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About Carers Trust

- Carers Trust is the largest provider of carers support services
- With The Carers Trust Network, made up of 150 independently managed charities, we reach more than 500,000 carers, including more than **30,000 young carers**.
- We are a leading voice for carers, championing recognition and support with a particular focus on young and young adult carers, older carers and dementia carers and carers of those with mental health needs.

Overview of the rights of young and young adult carers

Legislative change: Why was it necessary?



Identification duties

Local Authorities (LAs) must:

- Take reasonable steps to identify young carers in their area who have support needs (Part 5, Section 96, Children and Families Act 2014).
- Identify any children who undertake/ intend to undertake a caring role when assessing adults who may have care needs (Paragraph 6.68 and 6.69 Care and Support Statutory Guidance. Issued under the Care Act. DH 2014)

“Everyone involved should talk to each other and work together. They need to recognise that we know what’s going on because we live it every day. They need to listen to us and our parents.”

Young Carer

Assessment duties

Local Authorities must:

- Assess whether young carers in their area have support needs and, if so, what those needs are. (Part 5, Section 96, Children and Families Act 2014).
- Carry out a transition assessment for a young carer if they are likely to have needs once they turn 18 (Paragraph 16.8 Care and Support Statutory Guidance. Issued under the Care Act. DH 2014).



Young Carers Assessment - (Part 5, Section 96, Children and Families Act 2014).

Aim of assessment:

Children should not undertake inappropriate or excessive caring roles that may have an impact on their development.

Who is entitled to a young carers' assessment?

All young carers under the age of 18 have a right to an assessment of their need.

It doesn't matter:

- Who they care for
- What type of care they provide
- How often they provide it

The LA has to decide whether:

- The young carer the young carer has support needs
- If any of the young carer's needs for support could be prevented by providing services to the person cared for, or another member of the young carer's family
- What the young carer's needs for support would be likely to be if the young carer didn't have to do any / all of the caring
- What services the local authority could provide and whether to provide services.
- The arrangements for a future review

Young Carers Transitions Assessment - (Paragraph 16.8 Care and Support Statutory Guidance. Issued under the Care Act. DH 2014).

Aim of assessment:

- To consider how to support young carers to prepare for adulthood and how to raise and fulfil their aspirations, and create a person centred transition plan, including key milestones to achieve, agreed with young adult carer
- There is no set age for a young carers transition assessment

Who is entitled to a young carers' transitions assessment?

- The LA has a duty to carry out a transition assessment for a young carer, if they are likely to have needs once they turn 18
- LAs should consider how they can identify young people who will need a transitions assessment but are not receiving children's services.

What to assess?

Through transitions assessments for young carers, LAs must specifically consider whether the carer:

- Is able to care now and after the child in question turns 18
- Is willing to care now and will continue to after 18
- Works or wishes to do so
- Is or wishes to participate in education, training or recreation

The LA must identify:

- The young carers' needs and how they might change at 18.
- How to support young carers to prepare for adulthood and how to raise and fulfil their aspirations.
- If the young carer will be eligible for support after they turn 18
- If the support plan for the person(s) the young carers cares for would change as a result of the young carer's change in circumstances.

Has the law been successfully implemented?

Limited info on the extent to which the new rights are in place and their impact

There are a number of sources of partial information about how the legislation is working:

- Making a Step Change Project
- The Local Government Association Care Act Stocktake
- Carers Trusts On the Map campaign
- Inquiry by the Children's Commissioner

Interesting facts from Children's Commissioner Inquiry:

- 80% of young carers are still not being supported
- Only 50% of Local Authorities have signed up to a Memorandum of Understanding
- 56% of support provided is toward 10 – 15 year olds (14% to 16-17 year olds and 8% to those aged 18+)
- 160 young carers under 5 were being supported by 22 Local Authorities.

Young and Young Adult Carers experiences of education and employment

Experiences of young adult carers in education

- Young carers have significantly lower educational attainment at GCSE level, the equivalent to nine grades lower overall than their peers e.g. the difference between nine B's and nine C's.
- 68% of young carers experience bullying at school and 39% said that nobody in their school was aware of their caring role
- More than half of young adult carers in college or university were struggling because of their caring role.
- Young adult carers are four times more likely to have dropped out of college or universities than students without caring roles.



Experiences of young adult carers in employment

- Young carers in work between the ages of 20-21 are more likely to be in lower skilled occupations than their peers and have reported that their caring role can influence their choice of career for example, applying for work in the ‘caring’ professions.
- Young carers aged between 16 and 18 years are twice as likely as their peers to be not in employment, education or training (NEET).
- 87% of young adult carers who were surveyed in 2013 (n=37) reported they did not get good careers advice or the advice they needed.



Getting into Work: A Guide for Young Adult Carers in England



Carers Trust – addressing the issues

Young Carers in Schools

- Schools are ideally positioned to identify young carers early and initiate support
- Young Carers in Schools is a free England-wide programme
- Makes it as easy as possible for schools to support young carers, and awards good practice.

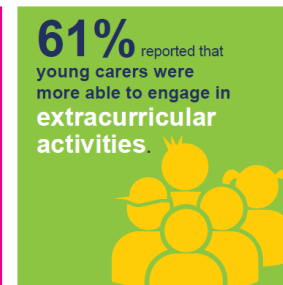
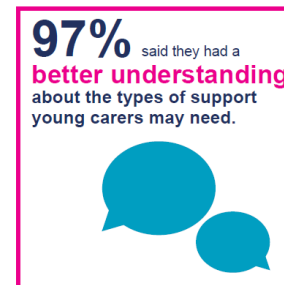
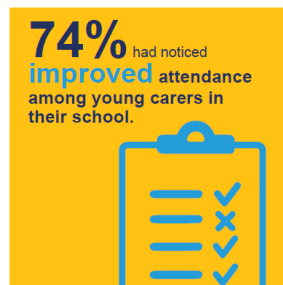
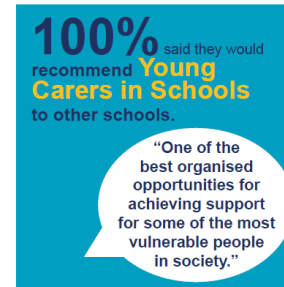
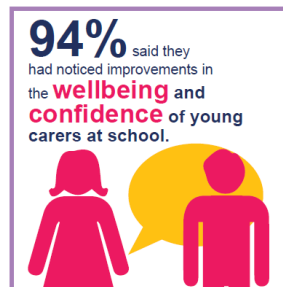
Run jointly by Carers Trust and The Children's Society, we are working with schools across England to share good practice, and provide relevant and accessible tools and training.

By taking part, schools can access:

- [Supporting Young Carers in Schools: A Step by Step Guide for Leaders, Teachers and Non-teaching staff](#) – helping schools step by step through essential templates, tools and guidance.
- [Webinars](#)
- [Termly eNewsletters](#)
- [Young Carers in Schools Award](#)

Impact so far:

- Since 2014 over 800 schools have engaged with programme, 202 have applied for awards and 133 have successfully achieved an award for implementing good practice.
- In November 2016 72 Award-winning schools reported positive impacts on attendance, achievement and confidence of pupils with caring responsibilities following their participating in the programme:

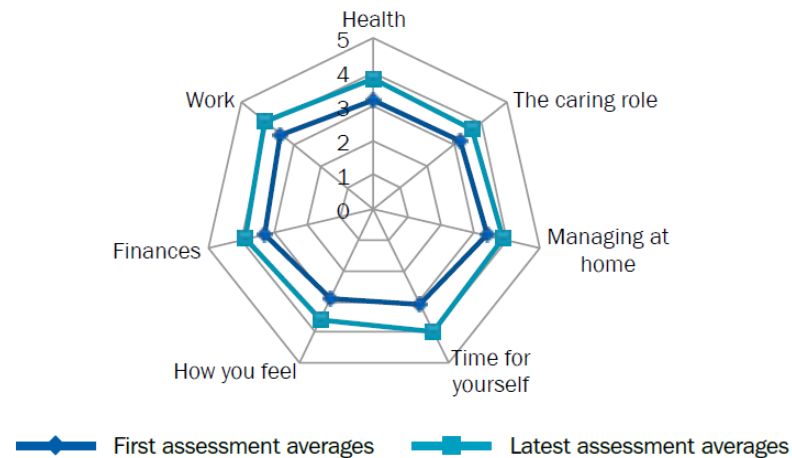


About Time: Supporting young adult carers aged 14-25, supporting transitions.

- In 2013, Carers Trust was voted as The Co-operative Charity of the Year.
- The £6m raised from the partnership was used to support young adult carers
- The About Time programme was developed, consisting of five related projects
- Established to address the issues that can lead to young adult carers becoming disengaged with society and feeling alienated from having long-term goals as a result of their caring role.
- Overall report will be published in late 2017

Time for Change

- Engaging 5000 young adult carers aged 14-25
- 55 projects across the country formed to tackle the issues experienced by young adult carers in transition.
- Focusing on:



Take Action and Support

- Supports young adult carers who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET to address and overcome their personal barriers to engaging with education, employment and training via tailored and structured support.

Project Activities

- Total number of YACs engaged 1,520
- Number of projects awarded funding 58
- **Small grants:** (of up to £150 each) young adult carers were able to address the immediate personal barriers to their engaging with education, employment and training opportunities e.g. through the purchase of clothing for interviews, money towards travel costs to college, purchase of books or equipment for university.
- **Residential events, workshops or training sessions:** enabling young adult carers address barriers to accessing education, employment or training e.g. CV writing and interview technique sessions were provided to improve skills, outward bounds residential was held to build confidence and team work
- **Professional Steering Group meetings for stakeholders** (employers, trainers, educational personnel etc.): focussed on improving young adult carers' engagement with employment, training and education opportunities were developed and supported



Thank you

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