



# 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.

It is estimated that 1 in 5 young people are Carers.



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

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

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

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.



We also offer a Kite Mark to schools to recognise commitment to identifying and supporting Young Carers.

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

## 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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