

SHEFFIELD YOUNG CARERS



**Join our Young Carers
Schools Network!**

Did you know...



1 in 12 children and young people take on mid- to high-level care for an ill or disabled family member (BBC, Nov 2010).



Young carers experience many negative impacts on their education, health and development as a result of their caring responsibilities, but often remain unidentified until a crisis occurs.



A Young Carer Lead is a member of school staff who understands the issues surrounding being a young carer and is an identified point of contact for pupils, families, and staff.



What does the Young Carer Lead role involve?

- Lead on identifying and supporting young carers in school.
- Be the main contact in school for young carers and their families.
- Be the main contact for external agencies coming into contact with young carers.



Changes to the school census:

Since Spring 2023, there has been a new Young Carer indicator on the schools' census return for all schools (not nurseries). This indicator will record whether the pupil has been identified as a young carer and by whom. Sheffield Young Carers has a range of resources that can help schools to feel ready for this change.



Young Carers Schools Network

- Sheffield Young Carers coordinates a **free network** for schools that are keen to develop their identification and support for young carers.
- Network members will receive emails with **useful resources** and **information**, and have access to the **members area** on our website which contains dedicated resources for education professionals working with young carers.



- We also hold half termly **meetings**. The network meetings are a chance to **share local and national developments** and **best practice**. Meetings also include **interactive training** for staff to gain skills and **resources** for delivering awareness-raising and support activities for young carers in your school.

- Meetings alternate between **online** and **face to face**, with a potential for joining the latter online if you can't attend in person. The days of meetings varies but they are usually **2 hours long**, from **9.30-11.30am**.



- Schools have reported that network membership has enabled them to **identify large numbers** of previously hidden young carers and then to **offer targeted interventions**, leading to **significant improvements** in **attendance, attainment** and **well-being**. Our membership is currently **120** schools, organisations, alternative providers; and we are keen to involve others in the city.

If you'd like more information or support about becoming a Young Carers Lead or a member of our Young Carers Schools Network, please contact our Education Development Worker, Shuna Beckett.



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Sheffield Young Carers is the only dedicated service for young carers and young people affected by drug and alcohol issues in their family, in our city.

A young carer provides care for one or more family members who have disabilities, long-term physical illnesses, and/or mental health difficulties. They may be providing physical, personal, financial and/or emotional care. We offer support to children and young people aged 8-25 who live in Sheffield and have these caring responsibilities.

Our vision is to work with young people to make a difference for life.

‘Young people are at the heart of everything that we do’

In order to meet our vision:

- We provide support through one-to-one work, group support, trips, holidays, and support with education, employment, and training.
- Our Family Project works with young carers’ families, with the aim of reducing the caring responsibilities on our young person.
- We work in partnership with organisations across the city to make sure that additional support is available to young carers and young people affected by familial substance misuse.
- We provide training on how to support young carers, enabling other organisations to identify and support young carers within their service.
- We have our Action Group, which gives young people directly involved with our services a voice in how our SYC runs, alongside other advocacy, training and external voice opportunities.
- We run the M-PACT programme, which offers whole family group support to benefit children and young people aged 8-17, who have been affected by parental substance misuse.

Get in touch...



Website: www.sheffieldyoungcarers.org.uk



Office Telephone: 0114 258 4595



Instagram: [@sheffyyoungcarers](https://www.instagram.com/sheffyyoungcarers)



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