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## **Warwickshire Young Carers Schools Award Self-Assessment Award**



The ‘Warwickshire Young Carers Schools Award’ has been developed by Warwickshire Young Carers

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## The Self-Assessment Process

There are four standards to achieve the Self-Assessment Award. This award can be completed as a standalone award or in preparation to achieve the Bronze Award.

### Aims…

* Encourage and support schools to work toward provision of a high standard of support for Young Carers attending their school
* Improve the experience, attendance and attainment of Young Carers
* Be better equipped to support students, with caring responsibilities, to reach their potential whilst also providing for their individual needs
* Recognise good practice in provision for Young Carers and their families and identify areas for development

### Benefits…

* Gain recognition for their provision and good practice
* Provide a framework for meeting national guidance and legislation
* Good preparation for Ofsted inspection and a valued achievement to highlight during inspections
* Raises the profile of Young Carers for students, parents, staff, SLT and Governors
* Supports continuous improvement for the school
* Supporting YCs to achieve improved attendance, attainment and positive experiences

### To complete the award…

1. Receive Self-Assessment Award
2. Identify a Young Carers Lead
3. Complete the contact information and return details to WYC
4. Print out and distribute, where appropriate, the flyers contained within this document
5. Complete the self-assessment
6. Inform WYC that you have completed the award

1. Receive certificate from WYC and display in school

For more information, support or guidance please see the frequently asked questions at the end of this document or feel free to contact us via the details on page 2.

### Gathering evidence…

As the way in which individual schools operate and the needs of young people differ, it is expected that schools will achieve the award in different ways. The Young Carers Service is on hand to help with advice on this, where required or needed.

## Primary Contacts Information Sheet

Please complete this form with the required information about your school and who will be taking responsibility for the completion of the Award. Please also identify a named person (which may be the same person) to act as the lead for Young Carers.

A Young Carers lead can be anyone (e.g. teacher, TA, pastoral staff, Family Support Worker, Head Teacher, member of SLT or SENDco). They need to be someone with responsibility for ensuring the needs of young carers are understand and addressed within school (by co-ordinating the schools young carer approach as it should be a whole school agenda), making referrals for them to receive additional support and liaising with Warwickshire Young Carers.

Once completed please pass these details to Warwickshire Young Carers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| School |  |
| Address |  |

The main contact responsible for the completion of the **award:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Job title |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Mobile |  |
| e-mail |  |

The main contact responsible for the needs of Young Carers if different to the above-named person:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Job title |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Mobile |  |
| e-mail |  |

Use this space to explain anything you feel we should know or to explain any specific needs you might have:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Notes |  |

## Standard 1: Understand

There is a lead member of staff with responsibility for understanding and addressing the needs of Young Carers and a Young Carers Policy is in place.

### Self-Assessment standards

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| **1.1** There is a Young Carers Lead in school, with responsibility for understanding and addressing the needs of Young Carers | Yes □ |
| **1.2** The Primary Contacts Information sheet has been completed and passed to the Young Carers Service | Yes □ |
| **1.3** The school is aware of students who have caring responsibilities and has a method to record who is a Young Carer? | Yes □ |
| **1.3a** How does the school record who is a Young Carer? *(Added Young Carers to SIMS/vulnerable groups lists, etc.)* | |
| **1.4** Is there a Young Carers Policy in place or are Young Carers needs incorporated within other policies? *(Young Carers are included/mentioned in other policies e.g. Anti-bullying, Safeguarding)* | |

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| ***Additional steps needed to achieve the Bronze Level Award are:*** |
| * The Young Carers Lead is known to everyone in the school * There is contact with the Young Carers Service * Provide a sample policy where Young Carers are included |

## Standard 2: Inform

Awareness is raised by sharing knowledge about disability, illness and Young Carers throughout the school.

### Self-Assessment standards

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| --- | --- |
| **2.1** Is awareness raised about the needs of Young Carers to pupils? | Yes □ |
| **2.2** How is awareness raised about Young Carers to pupils? *(Assemblies, PSHE, drama)* | |
| **2.3** Is awareness raised about the needs of Young Carers to staff? | Yes □ |
| **2.3** How is awareness raised about Young Carers to staff? *(In a staff meeting, Young Carer training, online Warwickshire County Council training, Young Carer Lead available for discussions, etc.)* | |

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| ***Additional steps needed to achieve the Bronze Level Award are:*** |
| * Explain how awareness is raised about Young Carers to parents and guardians * Show how you promote and share good practice about Young Carers within the wider community. * Sample promotional material |

## Standard 3: Identify

Young Carers are being identified within your school and signposted to other resources and services outside the school.

### Self-Assessment standards

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| **3.1** Methods are in place to identify Young Carers within school.  *(Through staff, assemblies, parents evenings, meetings, etc.)* | Yes □ |
| **3.2** How many Young Carers are the school aware of? *(it is ok if this is 0\*)*  *(This can be those already registered with the Young Carers service and those who are not)* |  |
| **3.3** Have you referred Young Carers to the Young Carers Service?  *(it is ok if this is no\*)* | Yes □ No □ |
| **3.4** Have you referred Young Carers to other agencies?  *(CAMHS, counselling, set up Early Help, etc.) (it is ok if this is no\*)* | Yes □ No □ |

*\*At this stage, it is expected that the school is trying to identify Young Carers who attend. It is therefore ok if the school is not currently aware of any Young Carers and have not made any referrals for additional support yet.*

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| ***Additional steps needed to achieve the Bronze Level Award are:*** |
| * Think about the registration form including a question about Young Carers/anyone living at home with a disability/illness etc. |

## Standard 4: Listen

Young Carers in your school and their parents are listened to and consulted with.

### Self-Assessment standards

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| **4.1** How are Young Carers listened to within the school? *(Please give some anonymous examples)* |

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| ***Additional steps needed to achieve the Bronze Level Award are:*** |
| * Have a consultation/discussion with Young Carers about how school policy could be improved to help. |

## Standard 5: Support

Young Carers are supported within the school with attendance, attainment and their experience.

### Self-Assessment standards

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| **5.1** How are Young Carers supported within the school? *(Please give some anonymous examples)* |

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| ***Additional steps needed to achieve the Bronze Level Award are:*** |
| * Show how Young Carers are recognised within the school and some support is given with attendance, attainment and their experience. * Show that the school is flexible for negotiating punishments so it does not conflict with time spent caring and still allows for social time. * Make sure Young Carers have access to extra-curricular activities. * Ensure there is adequate accessibility or suitable arrangements for parents/guardians with a physical disability, learning disability or any issues preventing them from attending school meetings or events etc. |

## Frequently Asked Questions

Here are some commonly asked questions about the Self-Assessment Award.

1. Can a Young Carers Lead be any member of staff?
   1. *Yes –* *it can be a teacher, TA, pastoral staff member, Family Support Worker, Head Teacher, member of SLT, SENDco, etc.*
2. Can we have more than one Young Carers Lead?
   1. *Yes, you can have more than one.*
3. What do I do if I am stuck on a question about how to include Young Carers?
   1. *Think if there any other groups of children/young people accessing this support and if, therefore, Young Carers could also. If you are still unsure you can contact the Young Carers Service.*
4. How can I access the Young Carers Service referral form?
   1. *The referral form is on the website:* [*www.warwickshireyoungcarers.org.uk*](http://www.warwickshireyoungcarers.org.uk) *– please get parental consent before completing the form and send it to us as directed on the website.*
5. Can anyone refer?
   1. *Yes, as long as there is consent to do so.*
6. What if we have no Young Carers identified yet in school?
   1. *You can still start the award but you need to show how you are trying to identify Young Carers.*
7. How should we go about identifying Young Carers?
   1. *Think about who could be Young Carers – eg do they live with a family member that has a disability, long term illness, mental health issue or substance dependence, are they helping to care for this person or are they impacted/affected by the situation at home. It could be their parent, sibling or another relative. If you are unsure please contact the Young Carers Service for more information and help.*
8. How do I contact the Young Carers Service?
   1. *E*mail info@warwickshireyoungcarers.org.uk.

