



Safeguarding Week 2022

Young Carers In Wakefield



Who's a young carer?

A person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person whose life is in some way restricted because of the need to take responsibility for the care of a person who is ill, has a disability, is experiencing mental distress, or is affected by substance use.

Carers National Association

The Children Act 1989 and Care Act 2014

IDENTIFICATION OF A YOUNG CARER



- ▶ Late for school/missing days/ tiredness
- ▶ Behavioral issues
- ▶ Anxious within school hours
- ▶ Isolating themselves/ lack of motivation
- ▶ Difficulty joining extra curriculum/hobbies
- ▶ Unable to complete homework on time
- ▶ Poor diet
- ▶ Finding it hard to concentrate
- ▶ On free school meals
- ▶ Change in hygiene/appearance
- ▶ Average age is 12 (some as young as 6)
- ▶ Between the 2001 and 2011 census, young carers aged 5 - 8 increased by 83%



Aiding identification

Questions you may ask to aid identification as Young Carers are not easy to identify, and some will try to conceal their caring role. However, there are key things to look out for:

- ▶ Is a young person often tired, distracted, withdrawn or anxious?
- ▶ Are they often late or missing from school?
- ▶ Are they isolated from their peers and often bullied?
- ▶ Is a young person secretive about their home life?
- ▶ Are they always concerned about a parent and want to be in regular contact?
- ▶ Does a young person take on a caring role for friends or other pupils?
- ▶ Does a young person form better relationships with adults?
- ▶ Do they have low self esteem or confidence?
- ▶ Do they need to go home straight after school?
- ▶ Do they sometimes get angry or frustrated or display challenging behaviors?

Health Inequalities



- Less likely to eat breakfast & have a healthy diet.
- Less likely to have good oral health.
- More likely to have a disability, long-term illness, or special educational need.
- More likely to report physical problems (eg back pain due to heavy lifting).
- 50% more likely to suffer with poor mental health.
- More likely to struggle with peer relationships, report loneliness and feel socially isolated.
- 68% report that they are bullied in schools.
- Young carers experience issues with getting good sleep due to worrying about the person they look after.



How may a young carer be affected?

- ▶ Lower grades in school/development delay
- ▶ Can't join in on hobby's they love
- ▶ Overactive mind
- ▶ Constant worry/anxiety
- ▶ Vulnerable to social situations
- ▶ Prevented from socialising with friends
- ▶ Low emotional well-being.
- ▶ Impact on future life chances



What is available for Young Carers In the Wakefield district?

Young carers groups

WFI-CAN page

Youth Forum

Half Term Fun days/Specials



WAKEFIELD CENTRAL AND SOUTH WEST



YOUNG CARERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Your child is invited to attend the **Tuesday** group
@ **The Castle Childrens Centre, 255 Barnsley Road,**
Wakefield WF1 5NU

Drinks &
Snacks
provided

SESSIONS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS at 4:00 – 5:15 PM on the following dates
(why not place this on your fridge to help you and your child keep track?!)

Dates for Spring/Summer 2022

APRIL – sessions in April will be on the 5th

MAY – sessions in May will be on the 3rd/ 17th

JUNE – sessions in June will be on the 14th / 28th

JULY – sessions in July will be on the 12th



“YOUNG CARERS - We’re here for you!”

Sessions delivered by Wakefield Young Carers Team. Contact us: youngcarers@wakefield.gov.



Pontefract



YOUNG CARERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Your child is invited to attend the **MONDAY** group @ Pomfret Childrens Centre, Rookhill Road, Pontefract, WF8 2DD

Drinks & Snacks provided

SESSIONS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS at 4:00 – 5:00 PM on the following dates
(why not place this on your fridge to help you and your child keep track?!)

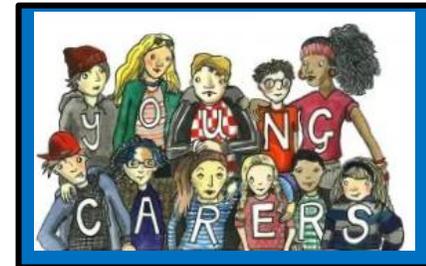
Dates for Spring/Summer 2022

APRIL – sessions in April will be on the 11th / 25th

MAY – sessions in May will be on the 9th

JUNE – sessions in June will be on the 6th / 20th

JULY – sessions in July will be on the 4th



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Castleford



YOUNG CARERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Your child is invited to attend the **MONDAY** group @ The Hut, Kershaw Avenue, Castleford, WF10 3ES

Drinks & Snacks provided

SESSIONS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS at 4:00 – 5:00 PM on the following dates
(why not place this on your fridge to help you and your child keep track?!)

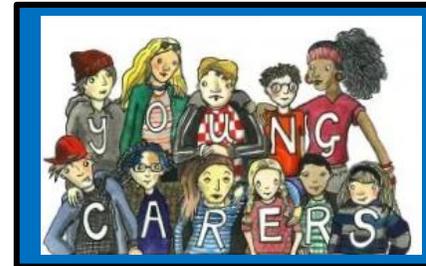
Dates for Spring/Summer 2022

APRIL – sessions in April will be on the 4th

MAY – sessions in May will be on the 16th / 30th

JUNE – sessions in June will be on the 13th / 27th

JULY – sessions in July will be on the 11th



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Hemsworth / South East



YOUNG CARERS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Your child is invited to attend the **THURSDAY** group @ **Cedars Children's Centre, Hemsworth**
Full address: Barnsley Road, Hemsworth, WF9 4PU

Drinks & Snacks provided

SESSIONS WILL BE ON THURSDAYS at 4:00 – 5:15 PM on the following dates
(why not place this on your fridge to help you and your child keep track?!)

Dates for Spring/Summer 2022

APRIL – sessions in April will be on the 7th & 21st

MAY – sessions in May will be on the 5th / 19th

JUNE – sessions in June will be on the 16th / 30th

JULY – sessions in July will be on the 14th



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wakefield
council

YC Youth Forum

- ▶ YC Youth Forum established in Oct 2020.
- ▶ Meet monthly to discuss ways to improve outcomes for YCs and shape the local offer.
- ▶ Involved in / contribute to multiple projects including: the Build Our Future Summit, development of e-cookbook for young carers, working on the Young Carers App.
- ▶ Have suggested the introduction of a Young Carers card to help with:
 - ▶ U16s collecting prescriptions without being challenged.
 - ▶ Having time out from class if worried about a loved one.
 - ▶ Allowances made by school for being late.
 - ▶ Discounted travel on public transport to accompany loved ones to appointments.



WF-ICAN PAGE;



- ▶ If you need any advice/tips/information, please see our WF-ICAN PAGE below;
- ▶ <https://wf-i-can.co.uk/>
- ▶ Easy to navigate and easy to work!!!

HALF TERM SPECIALS.



Throughout the school holidays we have hosted half term specials which included bowling, outdoor activities and fun days.



Young Carers have also had the chance to make some tasty recipes and ingredients in which have been co-produced and made into a book, we then had a launch in South Elmsall where we made our own pizzas and cooked them in a pizza van and got certificates for the launch.



The older Young Carers have also recently participated in a movie making production at Bradford university where they had the chance to tell their story's and design and animate the YC movie surrounded by a greenscreen and co-production team! Which will be released in a short while!



Pathway To Referring

- ▶ **Call Olivia Andrady OR Ella Duffin
- Young Carers Lead Practitioners**

For an informal discussion about what support can be offered to a young carer and to help establish if they are a young carer.

- ▶ **Complete a Nomination Form:**

Go to www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/early-help/young-carers

Complete and return to Olivia Andrady or Ella Duffin

- ▶ **COMING SOON - Young Carers
Assessment Toolkit**

This will help practitioners / partner agencies assess if a young person is a young carer. The assessment can then be supplied alongside the nomination form.

