



Young Carers in Schools

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- **Background info**
- **What's YCiS?**
- **Impact so far**
- **Ambassador programme**
- **Going Further, Going Higher**
- **Future of the programme**

Young Carers in UK

Across the UK, as many as
1 in 5 children and young
people are young carers.



2 in 3

young carers have
been bullied in school

1 in 3

young carers say their
caring role makes
them feel stressed



23%

of young carers felt their
caring role had stopped
them making friends

48

the average number of
school days missed or cut
short as a result of a young
person's caring role

What's YCiS?

- 🎨 Young Carers in Schools
- 🎨 Guidance for schools in how to identify and support young carers to achieve their full potential at school
- 🎨 Started in 2015 with The Children's Society
- 🎨 TCS administer an award for schools, Carers Trust maintain a toolkit for schools to use



YCiS materials

- 🎨 Baseline review
- 🎨 Step by step guides
 - School staff
 - Support workers
 - NQTs
- 🎨 Webinars
- 🎨 Termly newsletters to schools
- 🎨 Award administered by The Children's Society
- 🎨 Support from Carers Trust



The impact of YCiS

- 🎨 More young carers identified in schools - often a surprise to the school!
- 🎨 **94%** of schools said staff were more likely to know what to do if they identified a young carer
- 🎨 **94%** had a better understanding of the support required for them
- 🎨 Young carers were demonstrating increased wellbeing (**85%**), happiness (**83%**) and confidence (**83%**)
- 🎨 **73%** of schools reported young carers' classroom engagement had improved
- 🎨 **72%** thought their motivation to learn had improved
- 🎨 **63%** reported improvements in young carers' achievements
- 🎨 70 local authorities attended a conference launching the pack in 2018
- 🎨 All Party Parliamentary Group
- 🎨 Excellent feedback about tools

Limitations of YCiS

-  Ofsted
-  It's too big!
-  Teachers increasingly stretched for time and resource
-  Scaling up consistently across England
-  Differences across nations
-  Monitoring

Expanding YCiS: Ambassador programme

- 🎨 150 Ambassadors trained across five areas (Sunderland, Blackpool, Northampton, Hertfordshire, Barking and Dagenham)
- 🎨 Aims:
 - Sustainable,
 - agile approach,
 - empowering volunteers,
 - closer to schools,
 - encourage schools to start YCiS
- 🎨 Outcomes: Amazing results for the confidence of volunteers



Case study

Abby* has helped to deliver two assemblies and managed to convince her school to participate in Young Carers Awareness Day. The school are really proud of her and how far she has come.

The support has also meant that Abby has been able to gain confidence to talk to staff at school and develop further positive relationships with the YC support staff, meaning she has been able to speak out about what is going on at home and how she is feeling emotionally. Due to this 1:1 has been arranged and due to start in the coming weeks.

*name changed

Going Further, Going Higher

- 🎨 Taking Ambassador model from YCiS
- 🎨 Creating an ambition pathway for young people
- 🎨 20 Ambassadors over four areas (Newcastle, Scarborough and Ryedale, Solihull and Essex)
- 🎨 More autonomy for Ambassadors
- 🎨 Peer support between programmes



Future of the Education Equality Programme

- Education is a key opportunity to identify and support young carers
- Mapping exercise with The Children's Society
- Determine how YCiS is used across the UK
 - What's useful?
 - What's not?
 - What's missing?



Thank you

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