



**Carer Support
Wiltshire**

Young Carer Awareness Information
**Digital Pack for Wiltshire Schools,
Sixth Forms and Colleges.**

Freephone 0800 181 4118

Admin office 01380 871690

<https://carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/young-carers/>

Who are Carer Support Wiltshire?

Carer Support Wiltshire supports schools to help unpaid carers from the age of 5 and upwards. Our young carer team is committed to helping young carers be identified as early as possible so they can get the support they need in order to finish education and achieve their potential.

Every day across Wiltshire, young people help to look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.



Quick Facts – Young Carers

- Recent research shows that as many as **1 in 5** secondary school children could be a young carer.
- Many young people start their caring journey from as young as **5 years old**.
- As many as **27%** of young carers aged **11-15** miss school due to their caring roles.
- **Over one third** of young carers reported having a mental health problem.
- In one survey, **39%** young carers said that nobody in their school was aware of their caring role.
- **68%** of young carers are bullied in schools because of the impact of their caring role.



Young Carer Friendly Award

The Young Carer Friendly Award has been developed by Carer Support Wiltshire to recognise good practice for the identification and support of young carers in schools.

Working in partnership with the Wiltshire Healthy Schools programme, you can access the audit online.

Wiltshire education providers (primary schools to FE colleges) can access this award at no charge. Wiltshire schools, who are completing their Wiltshire Healthy Schools accreditation will automatically have access to the Young Carer Award theme.

Education providers, who don't currently have access to the Wiltshire Healthy Schools audit can request access to the Young Carers Award by emailing sharon@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk

You can complete the Young Carers Award independently of the Healthy Schools standards. Settings can choose to just complete the Young Carers Award, although schools involved in the Healthy Schools programme can choose to complete the award before or after they apply for Healthy Schools accreditation – or even at the same time.

You can access the audit here:
Young Carer Friendly Award: Wiltshire Healthy Schools



Downloadable Resources

Download and display Carer Support Wiltshire's Young Carer materials in your classrooms and staff rooms:

Young Carer Poster – What's in a Young Carer's School Bag [here](#).

A guide for 16-17 year olds turning 18 [here](#).

Staff Room Poster – Facts about Young Carers [here](#).

YACbook.co.uk poster [here](#).

16-25 poster/flyer [here](#).

Drug and alcohol flyer [here](#).



Young Carer Stories

Stacey has cared for her Mum since she was a little girl. Mum has multiple health issues which means she needs physical and emotional support. Because of the challenges of juggling looking after Mum with her studies Stacey found school difficult. Her mental health began to suffer and she struggled with an eating disorder and anxiety. Read more [here](#).

Celina was 12 years old when her Dad sadly passed away. At such a young age, Celina suddenly had to deal with the loss of her Dad and, as the oldest of her 5 siblings, take on the role of second parent. She also became the main carer for her Mum, who has cerebral palsy, fibromyalgia and also suffers with symptoms of agoraphobia, which means she finds it difficult to leave the house. Read more [here](#).

What makes **Kerry's** case unusual is that her brother is older than she is but he is severely autistic. And needs constant help. Like many young carers, Kerry, 19, from Westbury, didn't even know she was a carer until she was 12 – it took a visit from social services to point this out. Read more [here](#).



Young Carer Referral Map



Young Carer Referral Process

Young carer
under 16
Teacher/
Professional

Do you have
parental
consent?

03004560108
or MASH@
wiltshire.gov.
uk

Assessment is undertaken by Wiltshire Council. If eligible for activities, the young person is then referred to us at Carer Support Wiltshire. We then commission Youth Action Wiltshire to provide activities and breaks.

Young carer
under 16
Parent/young
person

Young people
and parents
can now self
refer to the
Integrated
Front Door.

03004560108
or MASH@
wiltshire.gov.uk

As above, but also eligible for a transitions assessment and support directly from Carer Support Wiltshire.

Young carer
16+

Young people
or professionals
can self refer
directly to us at
Carer Support
Wiltshire.

Go to www.carer-support-wiltshire.co.uk



Websites and Contact Us

For more information and advice, find our young carers site at

<https://carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/young-carers/>

We have a page with information dedicated to teachers and professionals [here](#).

You can also have a look at YACbook, a website for young adult carers (16-25) at www.YACbook.co.uk

For general information, go to www.carersupportwiltshire.co.uk

Contact:

Should you wish to discuss individual young carer details you can contact the in house team here: youngcarersteam@wiltshire.gov.uk

Sharon Twiggs for information and resources to improve young carer awareness within your school: Sharon@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk

For young adult carers aged 16-25, contact admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk

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