



Young Carers Eligibility Criteria

What are Eligibility Criteria?

Eligibility criteria are the criteria by which the local authority must determine whether it is required to provide support to carers to meet carers' identified needs.

What will eligibility criteria do?

We will work together with young carers to complete a Young Carer Statement. We will use the eligibility criteria to help decide what support can be made available.

Our eligibility criteria have been developed to:

- Ensure that the right level of support is delivered at the right time
- Set out a fair and transparent system for determining eligibility for carers with different types of needs
- Agree the thresholds that must be met to be eligible for the provision of support

The use of the local eligibility criteria for young carers is in relation to the impact of the caring role on the young carer. The young carer might have other needs which are unrelated to the impact of the caring role. In these circumstances, the young carer could be eligible for other services and supports but not through this route.

How we will use the eligibility criteria?

The process of agreeing what support we can provide to you is broken down into four steps:

Step One

It is identified that you would benefit from a Young Carer Statement or you request a Young Carer Statement.

We will have a conversation with you and/or their representative to talk about the caring situation and identify your needs. We will work with you to identify what matters most, what you want to achieve and what support would help best.

Not all young carers who are assessed will have an eligible need. However, you will still be able to access universal and/or other support services. We may give you information and advice or put the young carer in touch with other organisations that can help.

Step Two

We will agree with you which of your outcomes can be met through services or assistance either to the cared-for person or through services generally available to you e.g. in school or through local community groups. If your outcomes can be met in this way, we will not take any further action at this time but will keep this under review in case your circumstances change.

Step Three

If you have outcomes which cannot be met through assistance either to the cared-for person or through services generally available to you, we will assess if you meet the threshold for support set out in our local eligibility criteria.

We give priority to carers who are assessed as being within the critical and substantial impact categories.

Carers who are assessed as being in moderate and low impact categories may be eligible for other services such as: advice and information; advocacy; carer support, counselling services and befriending and volunteer services.

Step Four

Once the level of support has been agreed, we will work with you and an appropriate person (for example, your parent or guardian) to agree how you will receive your support and to help you choose from the four self-directed support options.

- a Direct Payment;
- Funding allocated to a provider of your choice (sometimes called an Individual Service fund, where the Council holds the budget but the person is in charge of how it is spent);
- The Council can arrange a service for you; or
- You can choose a mix of these options for different types of support.

You will be involved in each stage of the process and in all decision making.

Eligibility for Services is decided in terms of risk to an individual. There are five indicator categories.

We give priority to carers who are assessed as being within the critical and substantial impact categories.

Carers who are assessed as being in moderate and low impact categories may be eligible for other services such as: advice and information; advocacy; carer support, counselling services and befriending and volunteer services:

No Impact	Indicates that there are no quality of life issues resulting from the caring situation and at this moment no need for support or advice.
Low Impact	Indicates that there may be some quality of life issues but low risk to the young carer's quality of life, health and wellbeing. There may be some need for universal and/or preventative support or advice.
Moderate Impact	Indicates that there is some risk to the young carer's quality of life, health and wellbeing. This may call for provision of some additional support services.
Substantial Impact	Indicates that there is major risk to the young carer's quality of life, health and wellbeing. Likely to require urgent provision of some additional services.
Critical Impact	Indicates that there are significant risks to the young carer's quality of life, health and wellbeing. Likely to require Immediate provision of some additional services.

Indicators: Impact on and Risk to Young Carer Outcomes

The impact of the caring role and the level of risk will be assessed across the following **eight areas**. If the carer is experiencing a substantial or critical impact across one or more of the eight domains, then it is deemed that they have an eligible need(s):

	Universal support moving to commissioned services and support(local authority 'power to support')			More targeted, commissioned services & support services & support (local authority 'duty to support')	
	No Impact	Low Impact	Moderate Impact	Substantial Impact	Critical Impact
Safe/ Living environment	Young Carer free from abuse, neglect or harm at home, at school and in the community.	Young carer's situation at home/within community is currently stable and manageable	Young carer's situation at home is becoming difficult to manage and there is potential risk to Young Carer And/or the cared for person	Young carer's situation at home is not manageable and there are safety risks which cannot be remedied in the short term	Young carer's situation at home is unsuitable and there are safety risks for the Young Carer and the Cared for person
Health	Young Carer is in good physical and mental health with no identified health needs linked to or deteriorating as a result of the caring role	There are early signs that there is potential for the Young Carer's mental and/or physical health to be affected by their caring role but this is not currently the case.	The Young Carer's mental or physical health is being affected by the caring role.	Young Carer is having difficulty in managing aspects of the caring/family/domestic/social roles and the Young Carer's mental and physical health is significantly affected as a result.	Young Carer has significant physical/mental difficulties due to the impact of their role as a carer which may cause life threatening or serious harm

<p>Achieving/ education</p>	<p>Young Carer continues to access education/ training and has no difficulty in managing caring and education.</p>	<p>Young Carer has some difficulty managing caring and education/ training. There is a small risk to sustaining education in the long term.</p>	<p>Young Carer has difficulty managing caring and education/ training. There is a risk to sustaining education in the medium term.</p>	<p>The Young Carer is missing education / training to a significant degree. It may be that there is a significant risk of education/training ending in the near future.</p>	<p>The Young Carer may be at immediate risk of leaving education/training or is not attending education/training at all.</p>
<p>Nurtured/ relationships</p>	<p>Young Carer has positive emotional wellbeing. Has a nurturing place to live in and does not require additional help. Young Carer has a positive relationship with the cared-for person</p>	<p>Young Caring role beginning to have an impact on emotional wellbeing and may require additional help when needed Risk of detrimental impact on relationship with cared for person</p>	<p>There is some impact on the Young carer's wellbeing and on their relationship with the cared for person resulting in a strained relationship</p>	<p>There is a significant impact on a daily basis on the young carer's wellbeing and this impacts on the cared for person. Young Carer is unable to sustain many aspects of their caring role</p>	<p>There is a complete breakdown in the relationship between the Cared for person and the young carer, and carer is unable to continue caring or has difficulty sustaining vital or most aspects of their caring role. Immediate Input is needed for the carers Wellbeing. It may be that there are no or very few positives in the relationship with the cared for person.</p>

<p>Active/life balance</p>	<p>The young carer has opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport at home, in school and in the community</p>	<p>The young Carer has some opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport at home, in school and in the community</p>	<p>The young carer has limited opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport at home, in school and in the community</p>	<p>The young carer has few and irregular opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport at home, in school and in the community and this may have a negative effect to healthy growth and development</p>	<p>The young carer has no opportunities to take part in activities such as play, recreation and sport at home, in school and in the community and this has had a negative effect to healthy growth and development</p>
<p>Respect/ Responsible</p>	<p>The young carer has regular opportunities to be heard and involved in decisions and have an active and responsible role to be involved in decisions that affect them</p>	<p>The young carer has some opportunities to be heard and involved in decisions and have an active and responsible role to be involved in decisions that affect them</p>	<p>Due to their caring role, the young carer has limited opportunities to be heard and involved in decisions that affect them</p>	<p>The young carer has few and irregular opportunities to be heard and involved in decisions that affect them</p>	<p>The young carer has no opportunities to be heard and involved in decisions that affect them</p>

<p>Included/</p>	<p>The young carer feels accepted as part of the community in which they live and learn. Has time to become part of community activities.</p>	<p>The young carer feels some acceptance as part of the community in which they live and learn but is unsure how to become part of the community activities</p>	<p>Due to their caring role, the young carer has limited acceptance as part of the community in which they live and learn</p>	<p>The young care feels isolated and not confident in the community in which they live in.</p>	<p>The young carer does not feel accepted as part of the community in which they live in.</p>
<p>Finance</p>	<p>The young carer has no financial hardship/ enough finance</p>	<p>There is a low risk of financial hardship</p>	<p>There is a risk of financial pressure</p>	<p>The young carer needs additional financial support</p>	<p>The carer's financial position is severe/ they are experiencing serious financial hardship</p>