



Young Carers Challenge: Using data in relation to young carers



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Young Carers Challenge



Have a **Young Carers Champion** in school so that every young carer has a trusted adult in school they can go to if things are difficult, or they need more support.



Raise awareness of young carers with staff and pupils to help ensure young carers are identified and they know what support is available.



Have a **young carers agreement / policy** (ideally designed with young carers) so that every young carer knows what support is available to them in their school.



Ensure **young carers are correctly identified** in their school pupil information system, monitor indicators such as attendance and attainment alongside other potentially vulnerable groups of pupils and include young carers within enrolment/transitions processes.



Have **linked in with their local young carer service** so they know what support is available for young carers outside of school.

Find out more and sign-up:
youngcarersinschools.com/young-carers-challenge



Young carers



The Children and Families Act 2014 definition says a young carer is 'A person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person'.

This can include caring for parents, grandparents and/or siblings.

The person they care for may live with a physical condition or something more hidden, such as a mental health problem, an addiction, or neurodiversity.

They might help with shopping, cooking and cleaning; managing medicines or money; providing personal care and/or emotional support; and may need to look after other siblings.



Identifying young carers



Early identification is vital

New YCiS Award: Raising awareness of young carers, the tasks a young carer may do, who in school to speak to about young carers, and the support available for young carers

- Pupils
- Families
- Staff
- Governing body

[Checklist of signs a pupil is a young carer](#)

Registered or unregistered carers?

[Our Time case study](#)

“I often wonder, had I got support earlier, would my grades have suffered as much as they did?”

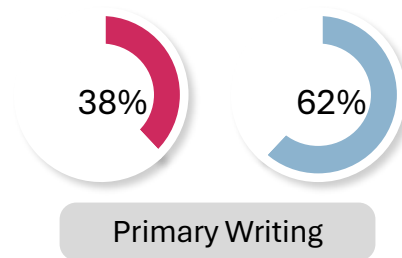
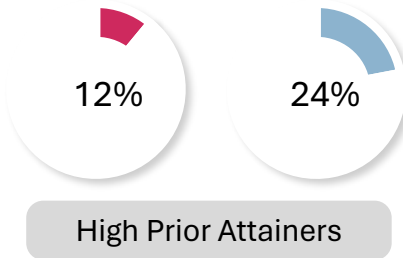
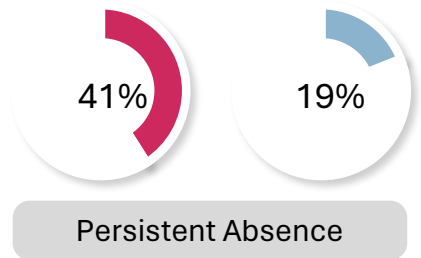
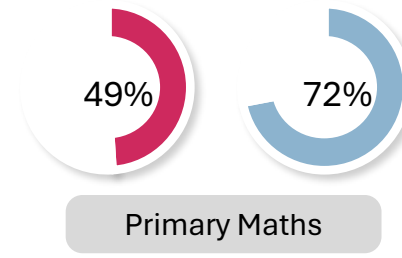
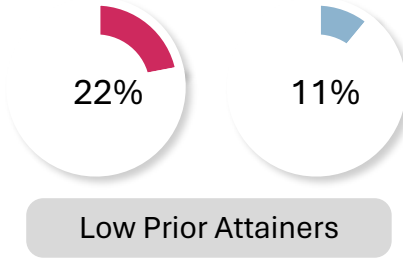
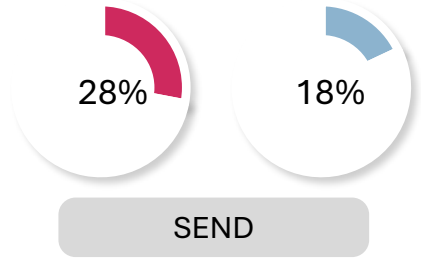
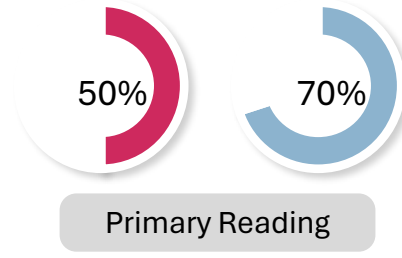
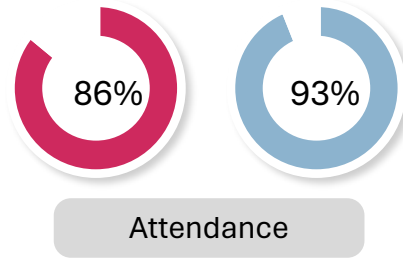
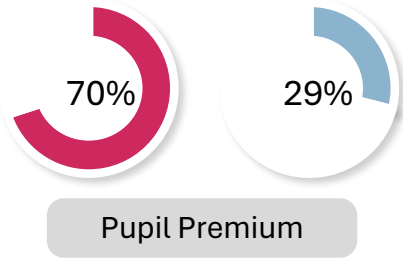
Young carer



School Data



- ◆ Young carers
- ◆ Non-young carers





Why record young carers?



1. The School census will accurately record the number of young carers in your school.

Carers Trust, The Children's Society and MYTIME young carers have produced a letter for schools setting out how they can ensure their young carers are identified and supported. Find the letter here: <https://youngcarersinschools.com/school-census-and-young-carers-letter-to-schools/>.

For further information about the school census, including FAQs, visit: <https://youngcarersinschools.com/schoolcensus/>

2. Knowing who the young people with caring responsibilities in your school are will help you know who to support.
3. Data shows young carers have lower attendance figures compared to their non-caring peers, identifying young carers and supporting them will improve your overall school attendance figures.
4. Enables school staff and leaders to identify changes in behaviour, attendance and attainment.



Completing the school census return



State schools, special schools and alternative provision will be asked to record the information using the following codes:

Code	Young Carer indicator
N	Not declared
P	Identified as a young carer by parent or guardian
S	Identified as a young carer by school

The default value will be 'N', not declared. For young carers identified by the school (e.g. a young carer self-identified on the back of an assembly), use the 'S' code, identified as a young carer by school. Similarly, for a young carer identified by the local young carers service (or by any other organisation), use code 'S', identified by school.

For more information about the school census itself visit – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/complete-the-school-census>



Completing the school-level annual school census



As of January 2024, independent schools will be asked to record the number of young carers in their school in their school-level annual school census return.

Independent schools 2024 - data items
Young carers identified by parent or guardian
Young carers identified by school – including where the pupil self declares

Independent schools will be asked to submit new voluntary information on the number of young carers in their school. They will be asked the total number of pupils identified as a young carer by a parent or guardian and the total number of young carers identified as a young carer by the school, including where the pupil self declares.

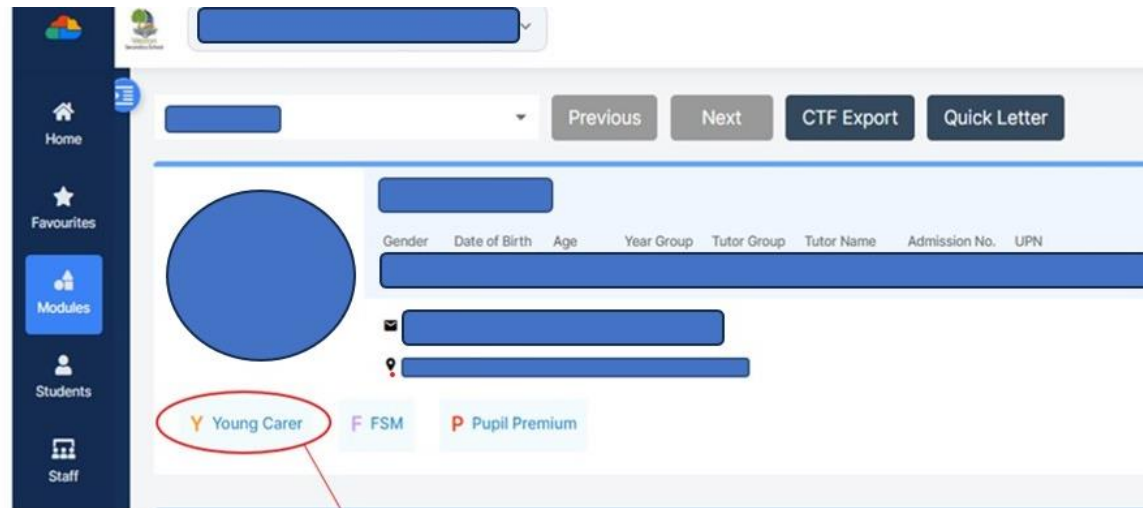
For more information about the school-level annual school census itself visit – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-level-annual-school-census>



How to record young carers



- This will vary school to school & depend on the system in place
- Speak with your colleague who runs your Management Information System
- Schools should have a young carer flag on your MIS.



Young Carer flag added to school system for any students identified as young carers. Visible to all staff.



What's next?



1. Are any of your pupils key monitors a concern?
2. What support can you put in place?
3. Monitor whether interventions are working.
4. Regularly review the data, at the SLT level.
5. Recording this information will support young carers transition.

Not sure where to start with your young carer provision?

The Young Carers Challenge & speak with the young carers in your school to see how it can be made more accessible.

Our Schools

- ▷ TEACH Trust
- ▷ Two infant and two junior schools
- ▷ More than 70 young carers

What support is in place?

- ▷ Regular young carer groups
- ▷ Dedicated Young Carer Champions
- ▷ Level Up Programme
- ▷ Consistency & clarity in approach



Our Schools

- ▷ The Blandford School
- ▷ 1600 strong secondary school
- ▷ 1 identified young carer to 40+

What support is in place?

- ▷ Regular 1:1 drop in
- ▷ Dedicated Young Carer Champion
- ▷ Organised young carer opportunities
- ▷ Young carer initiated flexible approaches
- ▷ Level Up Programme support
- ▷ Employability





MYTIME – Young Carer Champion Training



- ▶ Proven Young Carer Champion Training
- ▶ Dedicated Level Up Coordinator with multiple touch points to support the improvement of provision
- ▶ Short, self-led learning courses with tangible actions followed by 1:1 sessions with your coordinator
- ▶ Support with key delivery of strategies within school (assemblies, CPD)
- ▶ Liaising with local young carer services and agencies
- ▶ Online community support and forum
- ▶ Support with data collection and analysis – what are we collecting and why?
- ▶ Employability Programme access
- ▶ Unlimited resource support and creation – ask and you'll receive!
- ▶ No fee – fundraising support discussions



<https://forms.office.com/e/Ye4XjuDDjm>



Young Carers in Schools Award



The Young Carers in Schools Award has been developed in consultation with schools, young carers services and young carers. The Award consists of two levels - an Award and, launching in Spring 2024, an Award Plus.

The Young Carers in Schools Award allows schools to gain recognition for their good practice and ability to meet the needs of these vulnerable pupils.

The Young Carers in Schools Award is based on five standards which were developed following consultation with young carers when the Award was first established. These five Standards underpin the new Young Carers in Schools Award:

1. **UNDERSTAND** There are assigned members of staff with responsibility for understanding and addressing young carers' needs.
2. **INFORM** Awareness is raised by sharing knowledge about disability, illness and young carers throughout the school.
3. **IDENTIFY** Young carers are being identified within the school.
4. **LISTEN** Young carers are listened to, consulted with and given time and space to talk.
5. **SUPPORT** Young carers are supported within the school and signposted to whole-family resources and services outside the school.

The Award will have a three-year expiry date to ensure that the provision for young carers remains in place. Schools will be contacted and asked to re-apply.

Schools will also be asked how many young carers they have recorded when they submit their application. We will be in contact a year after the school achieves the Award to see if the number of identified young carers has increased.





YCiS Award

Enrolment and transition



Make sure that you are aware of any disability and illness in the family, and young carer status when someone starts at the school. This could be done via an enrolment form and a letter to parents advising of the support available in school. You should also share this information for pupils leaving and moving onto another school, if applicable. This is especially relevant for Armed Forces children.

- Primary schools can meet with the person in their secondary schools who deal with their young carers. Some schools also share the information via their schools monitoring system.
- Secondary schools should have a system in place to welcome and prepare for any incoming young carers. It is also good to prepare young carers for life after school e.g. communication with colleges, sixth forms or other education providers.
- For colleges, work with the local young carers group to consider their future aspirations or supporting them into higher education or employment.

“ I don't know if my school know I am a young carer. I've moved school so many times and I don't know if they asked me or not.”

Young carer



Further support



Contact your local carers service:

<https://youngcarersinschools.com/find-your-local-young-carers-service/>

The Young Carers in Schools programme:

<https://youngcarersinschools.com/>

YCiS@childrenssociety.org.uk

youngcarers@carers.org

MYTIME Young Carers:

<https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/>





Thank you



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