

Family Action Young Carers Criteria for Support

A Young Carer is defined in accordance with the Children and Families Act 2014 as “A young person under the age of 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person” who is suffering from a physical or mental illness, physical or learning disability or addiction.

The Children and Families Act 2014 and Care Act 2014 strengthen the rights of young carers and give greater protection of their welfare. The Acts place a duty on local authorities to carry out an assessment to establish the support needs of a young carer, which consider the needs of the whole family.

A young carer becomes vulnerable when the level of care-giving and care responsibility becomes excessive or inappropriate for the young person, risking negative impact on his or her emotional, physical well-being, educational achievement and life chances.

RBWM Family Action is committed to making sure that caring is a positive experience for all their young carers. While they continue to provide care, young carers should be able to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

There is no time limit to how long a family can access support from Family Action Young Carers, as long as there continues to be a support need for a caring role within the family.

Services include;

- One to one support
- Referrals and signposting
- Targeted group work
- Respite activities
- Representation at meetings
- Training for professionals

Young Carer Assessment

Once an appropriate referral is received a support worker will contact the family and arrange a time to complete a Young Carer Assessment to identify individual support needs.

The assessment process includes;

- The diagnosis or condition of the cared for, including current medical treatment.
- The caring role, both practically and emotionally.
- The impact of caring on health, wellbeing, education and social inclusion.
- Identification of support plan.

Young Carers Assessment Review

All assessments are reviewed in order to reflect on immediate outcomes and identify an appropriate offer of support.

Disengagement

Engagement with Family Action Young Carers is voluntary. Each family is encouraged to access support as much as possible. If a family has not engaged with the service for a 6 month period they will be removed from the service and a new referral will need to be made.

RBWM Young Carers Support Pathway



A young carer becomes vulnerable when the level of care-giving and care responsibility becomes excessive or inappropriate for the young person, risking negative impact on his or her emotional, physical well-being, educational achievement and life chances.

Referral - rbwm.referrals@family-action.org.uk

YC Assessment

- Parental assessment & consents
- Young Carer assessment
- Family Support Plan
- Review

16+ Transition Assessment

- Assessment & consents
- Support Plan
- Review

Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community

Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community

Offer of support

Respite breaks Targeted Support Work One to one support

Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community

Referral Checklist

The young person:	
Is between the age of 5 – 18 years old	
The young person:	Please tick <u>all</u> boxes
Lives in RBWM	
Is aware of the referral, and parent/guardian consent has been given	
Cares for a family member who lives at the family home (parent/sibling/other relative)	
The young person cares for someone who has a medical diagnosis, or long term addiction:	Please tick <u>one</u> box minimum
A physical disability (including sensory impairment)	
A learning disability	
A long-term illness, with clear diagnosis	
A mental illness, with clear diagnosis (<i>appropriate medication and treatment accessed through GP and/or Mental Health teams</i>)	
A mental illness, with clear diagnosis (<i>no services or treatment plans in place</i>)	
Alcohol or substance misuse (<i>appropriate treatment accessed</i>)	
Alcohol or substance misuse (<i>no support in place</i>)	
Their caring role has a direct impact upon, or affects:	Please tick <u>one</u> box minimum
Social inclusion	
Educational opportunities and achievement	
Their emotional wellbeing	
Their physical wellbeing	
Family relationships	