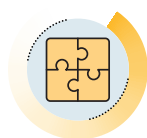


Young Carers Strategy 2020–2023: Plan on a Page

A young carer is someone under 18 who provides care – emotional or practical – for a family member. This could mean cooking and cleaning, taking siblings to school, or making sure the person they care for takes their medication. It can be hugely rewarding, but being a carer at any age can be hard work – mentally and physically. For young people in particular, with their extra responsibilities and other things they have going on, such as exams, it can become a bit of a juggling act.

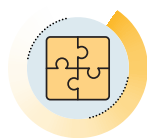
We are really proud of our young carers and we are sure you are too. It's important to remember that we're all responsible for ensuring that Manchester's young carers know what their rights are, and that they provide an appropriate level of care. It's also important they don't spend so much time caring for someone that it impacts on school, having time to relax, or seeing their mates.



Our principles

The development of a joined-up approach that helps all agencies to recognise and respond to young carers in the right way requires a specific way of working:

- There are no 'wrong doors'. Young carers are identified and assessed, and their families receive support to prevent inappropriate levels of caring, regardless of which service comes into contact with them first.
- Listening to young carers and their families through the use of person-centred approaches and holistic assessments is embedded into everyday practice.
- Young carers and their families are identified and supported earlier to prevent inappropriate levels of caring.
- The voice of young carers and their families informs strategic developments and commissioning.
- Young carers and their families have access to community resources through effective information, advice and support.



Our behaviours

Our principles embed the following behaviours:

We listen
We understand
We connect



Our vision

The Children and Young People Plan describes Manchester's vision for all children and young people:

"Our Manchester – building a safe, happy, healthy and successful future for children and young people."

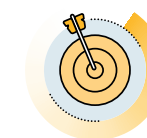
For our young carers this means having access to the same opportunities as their peers. It means being protected from inappropriate caring and having access to any additional support they may need, to ensure they are safe, healthy, aspiring and achieving.

We will achieve this through effective partnership working and the delivery of timely and high-quality services.



What we will do

- Work with young carers to ensure that their voice continues to be at the heart of everything we do.
- Develop a sustainable model of peer support for young carers through effective partnership working.
- Work with schools and settings that support them to develop their offer for young carers. This will include identifying a named champion in every Manchester school by 2021.
- Promote and improve the Young Carers Pathway, enabling all practitioners to navigate support available to young carers.
- Work in partnership to improve transition pathways and support for young carers at all key stages.
- Work with our voluntary-sector partners to ensure that the development of a single point of contact includes young carers.
- Improve information, advice and support available to young carers and those that work with them through a wide range of platforms.



Outcomes

Successful delivery of this strategy will achieve the following outcomes.

That all Manchester's young carers:

Can access support to enable them to have the same opportunities as their peers

Are protected from inappropriate caring roles

Are safe, happy, healthy and successful.