



SUPPORTING YOUNG CARERS SEPT 2025

SERVE CHALLENGE EMPOWER

Document Control

Version	Date	Action

This policy is a Trust-wide policy and applies without exception to all staff, students, trustees and governors who attend or work at all academies and settings in the Trust or in the central Trust structure.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Challenge Academy Trust (TCAT) recognises the vital role schools play in identifying and supporting Young Carers. Young Carers are children and young people under 18 who provide care, assistance, or support to a family member who has a disability, chronic illness, mental health condition, or substance misuse issue.

This guidance aligns with statutory safeguarding duties outlined in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2025, which highlights the importance of recognising and supporting vulnerable groups, including Young Carers.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF YOUNG CARERS

TCAT schools will adopt a proactive approach to identifying Young Carers by:

- Raising awareness among staff, pupils, and families.
- Including caring-related questions in admissions and pupil surveys.
- Training staff to recognise indicators of caring responsibilities.
- Creating safe opportunities for pupils to self-identify.

Staff must be familiar with Part One of KCSIE 2025, which outlines their responsibilities in identifying safeguarding concerns and promoting the welfare of all children, including those with caring responsibilities.

3. SUPPORT FOR YOUNG CARERS

Each TCAT school will appoint a Carer Champion to:

- Act as a named point of contact for Young Carers.
- Coordinate support and maintain a confidential register.
- Liaise with families and external agencies.
- Promote inclusion and wellbeing.
- Attend local training and network meetings for Carer Champions

Support may include:

- Flexible academic arrangements.
- Access to pastoral care and quiet spaces.
- Opportunities for enrichment and peer support.
- Mental health and wellbeing interventions.

4. SIGNPOSTING AND REFERRALS

TCAT schools will ensure Young Carers and their families are aware of and can access external support.

NATIONAL SUPPORT

[Young Carers in Schools Programme](#)
[Carers Trust](#)
[Barnardo's Young Carers](#)

LOCAL SUPPORT

Warrington: [Warrington Carers Hub](#) – Tel: 0300 303 0623
St Helens: [St Helens Young Carers Centre](#) – Tel: 01744 677279
Wirral: [Barnardo's Action with Young Carers Wirral](#) – Tel: 0151 650 5488

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

TCAT will:

- Maintain a register of identified Young Carers.
- Review support plans regularly.
- Gather feedback from Young Carers and families.
- Report annually on identification and support outcomes.

6. COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION

Young Carers will be recognised as a vulnerable group in safeguarding and inclusion policies. All staff will receive regular training, and TCAT will foster a culture of understanding and respect for caring responsibilities.