

MAKI Young Carers – Delivered by MAYDS

Young Carers Statement Information

Delivering better outcomes for young carers and
their families.

2019

MAYDS
Mid Argyll Youth Development Services
Providing Information and Accessible Youth Friendly Services

**Argyll
Bute
COUNCIL**

50 A Union Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll. PA31 8JS

What is a Young Carers Statement?

A Young Carers Statement is part of the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. All Young Carers are entitled to a Young Carers Statement (YCS). The YCS will enable Young Carers to express their feelings, needs and find out what impact their caring role has on their life. The YCS will help and empower young carers, provide them with confidence and assist the child or young person to recognise their own needs and identify personal outcomes which are important to them. Options can then be considered, aiming to reduce the impact of their caring role and ensure that young carers are seen as children and young people, first and foremost. For a Young Carer to receive a YCS a request can be made from the young carer themselves or from education, primary health care or other organisations/services supporting the young person. Most Young Carers and families will work with a Young Carers Worker from the local Carers Centre to help complete a Young Carers Statement. A Young Carers Statement can be declined but can be changed at any time by request from the young carer or family. As part of the Young Carers Statement, a support plan may be created. For more information about support available to carers please call the Carers Information Line - 0141 353 6504

A Young Carers Statement can provide as much or as little support as a Young Carer or their family needs.

What this means:

A young person can get support to have respite from their caring role.

This can come in various forms such as attending youth clubs / activities or Sports clubs.

If there are financial or transport issues these can also be looked into and possible support identified and arranged. Free residential breaks such as Lochgoilhead Activity Centre, Pony Club, trips away to pantomimes etc.

Support can be provided where a young person may have issues with getting to school on time, completing tasks in school due to worries about home, homework tasks etc. This may involve discussing issues with the young persons teacher and working to resolve problems or provide extra support.

Sometimes it may be having someone to talk to or just knowing that someone will listen or help if the young person wants them to.

What this does not mean: ✘

A young person will automatically have other agencies involved such as Children and Families – No. This would only apply if there is a significant risk, danger or child protection issue to the young person identified.

That everyone in school will know their situation – No. Only relevant staff such as the young person's teacher / headteacher are informed where consent is given by the young person. Relevant information only would be shared.

Carers Act (2016) – a law that says who carers are, what they do and that they should be given help if they need it. Young Carer – a person under 18 who looks after someone in their family who is ill, has a disability, mental health condition or substance misuse issue.

Young Carers Worker – someone whose role is to support Young Carers and their families to make things as good as they can be for everyone.

Young Carers Statement - a document that sets out details about the caring role and what help might be needed. It will also look at education, hobbies and interests and if support is needed to continue to do them. It is up to the Young Carer what goes into the document and a member of staff from the young carer's team will help them with this. They can decide who this information is shared with.

Review – an opportunity for young carers to talk about any changes that may have happened since the last time they met with the Young Carers worker and update plans for new supports that might be needed. The planning and meeting to do this can be agreed between the young person and Young Carers Worker.

MAKI – Mid Argyll Kintyre & Islay - Social Care and voluntary sector organisations who work together to provide support for carers and help to ease a young carers role.

A Young Carers Statement Process

1 A young carer is identified

2 A request for a young carers statement is made

3 A young carers worker will contact you and help the family to complete forms, etc..

4 A support plan may be put in place to help achieve goals set by the carer

5 The young carers statement may be reviewed with the young carer at an agreed time.

6 The completed young carers statement may be shared with family or professionals if consent is given

