**Tools to support services to raise the local profile of YCiS**

**Tool 10:**

Template letter to Head teachers (for young carers services who are currently in partnership with schools)

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 **Guidance**

**This template letter is designed for use by young carers services with schools that they already work with.**

**It aims to make it as easy as possible for services to raise the awareness of these schools about:**

* **The work the service is doing in partnership with Carers Trust and The Children’s Society to deliver Young Carers in Schools (YCiS) in the local area.**
* **The key benefits to schools participating in the programme.**
* **The next steps schools can take to get involved.**

Services may wish to include their logo alongside Carers Trust and The Children’s Society logo on this letter. To do so, services should use Tools to support services to raise the profile of Young Carers in Schools: Tool 8 Joint logo lock-up.

The template letter states that further information is enclosed regarding Young Carers in Schools and the dramatic impacts schools say it has on pupils’ attendance, attainment wellbeing. These materials are supplied as part of Supporting Young Carers in Schools: A Toolkit for Young Carers Services at:

* Tools to support services to raise the local profile of Young Carers in Schools: Tool 15 Young Carers in Schools A4 promotional leaflet
* Tools to support services to raise the local profile of Young Carers in Schools: Tool 16 Young Carers in Schools Impacts Infographic

Dear [insert name of contact at the school]

**Gain an England wide Award for your school’s work with young carers**

It has been fantastic working with you over the past [insert number] years / months [delete as appropriate] to identify and support the pupils who are young carers at your school. I wanted to ensure you don’t miss out on your opportunity to gain an England wide Award for your effective practice through the Young Carers in Schools programme.

**Young Carers in Schools**

[insert name of service] is working in partnership with Carers Trust and The Children’s Society to deliver Young Carers in Schools. Through this essential, initiative, we are making it easier than ever for schools to meet young carers’ needs and to gain an Award for their good practice.

**Why take part?**

Young Carers in Schools enables your school to:

* Get England wide recognition for effective practice through the Young Carers in Schools Award.
* Prioritise and take manageable steps to increase identification and improve outcomes
* Access essential support including half-termly network meetings with other schools, tools, templates and good practice examples, making increasing identification and improving outcomes as easy as possible.
* Demonstrate to Ofsted that your school is meeting the needs of young carers, specifically mentioned in the Common Inspection Framework.

“The Young Carers in Schools programme has enabled us to ensure that the right support is in place for young carers. We are now more aware and more able to address their needs”. *Head teacher*

**What can we offer you?**

As a local service, we can support your schools’ provision for young carers through [delete/add as appropriate] targeted 1:1 meetings with your School Lead for Young Carers/half-termly network meetings bringing together schools from across [insert locality] to: [delete/add as appropriate]

* Share learning amongst professionals.
* Gain expert advice.
* Develop staff knowledge and skills.
* Practice techniques and gain essential feedback to maximise impact
* Create, embed and sustain changes in practice that will effectively increase identification and outcomes for young carers[[1]](#footnote-1).

“I’ve had experience of using and working with lots of other programmes and I have found them not to be as supportive or as useful as the tools available through the Young Carers in Schools programme.” *Assistant Director of Inclusion*

Please find enclosed further information about Young Carers in Schools, the dramatic impacts schools say it has on pupils’ attendance, attainment wellbeing and [insert name of local young carers service].

**Next steps**

* Register your interest in the Young Carers in Schools programme or find out more by contacting [insert details].
* Add your school to the “Schools Supporting Young Carers Map” at www,youngcarersinschools.com. This interactive map showcases schools across England working to raise outcomes for this vulnerable pupil group.

Yours faithfully



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1. Please note that this support is delivered by [insert name of young carers service] and independent from Carers Trust and The Children’s Society. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)