

The process

We will:

- To achieve the award, we will complete the checklist with you, requesting sight of evidence of 8 standards
- On completion of the checklist and evidence, present you with an SYC 'Angel Award' plaque of recognition and certificate signed by the Executive Director for Children, Families and Learning, Surrey County Council
- Announce achievements in the SYC Newsletter, the Schools Bulletin, and Surrey Matters
- Provide Angel stickers and posters to display in your school
- Check what is being achieved with you, every two years

Next steps

Please get in touch with SYC and one of our Educational Advisers will work with you to achieve the award.

Email SYC@actionforcarers.org.uk

Tel **01483 568269**

Young Carers in Schools Award (YCIS)

If you wish to develop and showcase your young carer support to an even higher standard please take a look at the YCIS award here:

<https://carers.org/young-carers-schools>



SURREY YOUNG CARERS
ANGEL AWARD

Supporting young carers in your school



Action for Carers (Surrey) Registered Office: Astolat, Coniers Way, Guildford GU4 7HL.
A Company Limited by Guarantee. Company Number 5939327.
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I love helping mum of course and I learned to be independent from a very early age. Decision making, organisation and budgeting will all be really useful to me in future. But caring comes with responsibility and I often miss out on seeing friends. Plus if mum needs help and I have homework to do, the homework has to wait.

Lucy, Surrey young carer

Young carers in school

There are, on average, two young carers in every classroom in every school in the UK. One of those carers will be having difficulties in their education because of their home situation:

- Research released in September 2018 by BBC News and the University of Nottingham suggests there could be about 800,000 children who are young carers in England. That is around one in five children aged 11-17 and an estimated 14,000 in Surrey.
- Half of young carers report that their caring role has a negative effect on their school work.
- Young carers leave school with the equivalent of 9 GCSE grades lower than their peers who have no caring role.
- One study reported that a half of the carers surveyed had missed school because of their caring role and a quarter had left without any GCSEs.
- A quarter of young carers said they were bullied at school because of their caring role.

With the right support, being a young carer brings benefits, and many express pride in their role.

The Angel Award

The Surrey Young Carers Angel Award has been developed by young carers, to reduce the barriers to their learning and achievement. These barriers can appear while a pupil is in infant school, and can persist into adulthood, restricting opportunities for further and higher education, and employment. The Angel Award aims to encourage and recognise all the great work that schools do in identifying and supporting their young carers.

Schools achieving the Angel Award will be recognised by pupils, families and professionals as a young carer friendly environment. This creates a culture of acceptance, understanding and support for its vulnerable pupils.

How the Award helps your school:

- The Angel award provides the opportunity for your school to gain recognition for good practice.
- Demonstrates that your school is meeting the needs of this vulnerable pupil group, specifically mentioned in Ofsted's Common Inspection Framework.
- Is broken down into 8 achievable standards, which are checked by SYC staff and young carers who are pupils at the school.