

# Leeds Young Carers Support Service Updated May 2020 – For Practitioners

## Service Provider – Family Action

Family Action has been awarded a new contract to deliver the Leeds Young Carers Support Service; the service commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and is being funded by Leeds City Council's Children and Young People and Adults & Health departments and NHS Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group.

Family Action has been building stronger families since 1869, transforming lives by providing practical, emotional and financial support to those who are experiencing poverty, disadvantage and social isolation across the country. Family Action works with over 45,000 families through over 140 community-based services. Thousands more are supported with financial assistance through education and welfare grants programmes.

Family Action is also delivering the Families Together Leeds service, which provides individual support, group support and volunteer support to children, young people and their families across Leeds, working closely with the Early Help Hubs.

To find out more information on Family Action, please go to: [www.family-action.org.uk](http://www.family-action.org.uk)

## Young Carers Support Service in Leeds

The vision for Leeds is to be the best city in the UK and the best city for children and young people to grow up in. Leeds wants to be a child-friendly city. Through this vision and ambitions, Leeds is investing in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous, compassionate and successful city. Leeds is committed to ensuring that young carers are supported to have equal life chances to their peers; are able to flourish and thrive; are protected from possible harm, including inappropriate caring roles, and are able to attend, attain and achieve in education.

### Three main elements of service

There are three main elements to the new young carers support service in Leeds:

- Information and advice
- Targeted support services
- Awareness raising

## Information and advice

The service will reach as many young carers as possible, including those who are currently unidentified through the provision of information, advice, networking and support to have their voices heard.

### Current offer:

If you would like further information and advice around supporting a young carer, please ring or email us. We can offer specialist advice and signpost to appropriate resources & support agencies.

## Targeted support services

The service will provide support tailored to young carers' needs, for those young carers whose caring role has a profound impact on their lives. This may include individual support and/or group support.

### Current offer:

**Individual support** – if you would like to make a referral for individual support for a young carer, please ring or email us. We will have an initial discussion with you about what support is already available for the young carer, what our service can do to enhance that support, and what “lite-bite” support we may be able to offer (during this lockdown and social distancing period due to COVID-19). If we decide together that our service could support the young carer at this time, we will then send you a referral form to complete.

**Group support** – if you would like to find out more about what group support we have available for young carers, please ring or email us. We are currently exploring ways that we can engage with young carers using different media platforms.

## Awareness raising

The service will proactively support improvements in the identification of and support available for young carers by services involved in supporting children and young people in Leeds.

### Current offer:

We are working with our commissioners to explore ways that our service can support the children and young people's workforce in Leeds (during this lockdown and social distancing period due to COVID-19)

## Leeds Young Carers Support Service Contact Details

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