

A Young Carer is defined in accordance with the Children and Families Act 2014 as “A young person under the age of 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person” who is suffering from a physical or mental illness, physical or learning disability or addiction.

The Children and Families Act 2014 and Care Act 2014 strengthen the rights of young carers and give greater protection of their welfare. The Acts place a duty on local authorities to carry out an assessment to establish the support needs of a young carer, which consider the needs of the whole family.

A young carer becomes vulnerable when the level of caregiving and care responsibility becomes excessive or inappropriate for the young person, risking negative impact on his or her emotional, physical well-being, educational achievement, and life chances.

RBWM Family Action is committed to making sure that caring is a positive experience for all their young carers. While they continue to provide care, young carers should be able to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.

Family Action can support a young carer for 4 – 6 months.

Services include:

- One to one support
- Targeted group work
- Referrals and signposting
- Representation at meetings
- Training for professionals
- Ambassadors Programme

Young Carer Assessment

Once an appropriate referral is received a support worker will contact the family and arrange a time to complete a Young Carers Assessment to identify individual support needs.

All initial Support Action Plans created at assessment are reviewed within 4 weeks to reflect on immediate outcomes and identify a longer term offer of support, including one to one and targeted group work.

The assessment process includes:

- The diagnosis or condition of the cared for, including current medical treatment.
- The caring role; practical, personal, emotional and sibling care.
- The impact of caring on health, wellbeing, education and social inclusion.
- Agreement of a Support Action Plan.

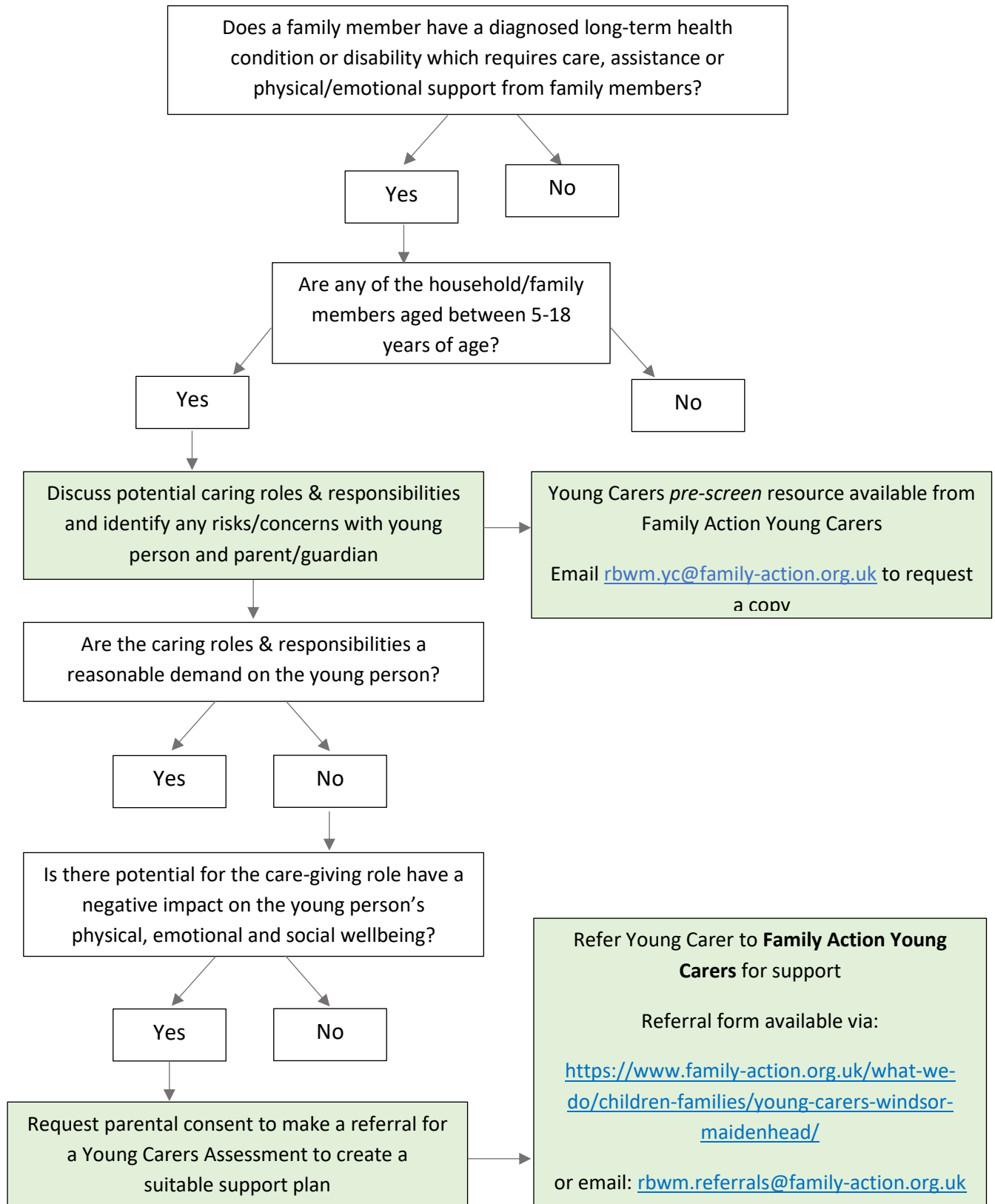
Young Carers Intervention Summary

On completion of support from Family Action, an intervention summary is shared with the referrer to inform of our involvement, outcomes achieved and recommended support for the future. Many Young Carers continue to provide care, and families are able to re-refer to our service until their child is 18 years old, so long as there continues to be a support need for a caring role within the family.

Disengagement

Engagement with Family Action Young Carers is voluntary. Each family is encouraged to access support as much as possible. If a family chooses not engage with the service, we will inform the referrer and close the care.

Referral Pathway



Referral Checklist

The young person:	
Is between the age of 5 – 18 years old	
The young person:	Please tick <u>all</u> boxes
Lives in RBWM	
Is aware of the referral, and parent/guardian consent has been given	
Cares for a family member who lives at the family home (parent/sibling/other relative)	
The young person cares for someone who has a medical diagnosis, or long term addiction:	Please tick <u>one</u> box minimum
A physical disability (including sensory impairment)	
A learning disability	
A long-term illness, with clear diagnosis	
A mental illness, with clear diagnosis (<i>appropriate medication and treatment accessed through GP and/or Mental Health teams</i>)	
A mental illness, with clear diagnosis (<i>no services or treatment plans in place</i>)	
Alcohol or substance misuse (<i>appropriate treatment accessed</i>)	
Alcohol or substance misuse (<i>no support in place</i>)	
Their caring role has a direct impact upon, or affects:	Please tick <u>one</u> box minimum
Social inclusion	
Educational opportunities and achievement	
Their emotional wellbeing	
Their physical wellbeing	
Family relationships	

RBWM Young Carers



Young Carer friendly community

Professionals Training

Outreach

Case Consultation



A young carer becomes vulnerable when the level of care-giving and care responsibility becomes excessive or inappropriate for the young person, risking negative impact on his or her emotional, physical well-being, educational achievement and life chances.

Referral – rbwm.referrals@family-action.org.uk



YC Assessment

- Assessment & consents
- Support Action Plan
- Review

Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community



16+ Transition Assessment

- Assessment & consents
- Support Action Plan
- Review

Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community



Offer of support

Signposting & referrals

Targeted Support Work

One to one support



Case closed
Supported within
Young Carer
friendly community