



The
Children's
Society

Young carers, parents and their families: **key principles of practice**

Supportive practice guidance for those who work directly with, or commission services for, young carers and their families

Jenny Frank and Julie McLarnon

A New Resource- Young carers, parents and their families: key principles of practice Jenny Frank and Julie McLarnon

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These **key principles of practice** are an invaluable tool for policy makers and practitioners. As a statement of the essential values and common understanding that should underpin all support for young carers and their families, they give clarity, direction and purpose to professional practice. The key principles will also be a vital resource for policy makers and practitioners when developing and providing services and can be used to measure success across departments and agencies. Threading the key principles throughout practice will also:

- support inter-agency joint practice and vital joint working between adults' services and children's services.
- encourage young carers and families to come forward and self-refer at an early stage.
- make the identification and assessment of any needs holistic and more effective
- support disabled parents' entitlements to assessments and services, including any parenting support needs
- work towards ensuring that children do not take on inappropriate roles and responsibilities
- work towards ensuring young carers and their families receive the same high standards of support and services wherever they are in the country influence change and clarify lines of accountability.

A supportive online resource, the **Whole Family Pathway**, designed to be used alongside this publication, is available at www.youngcarer.com

“We wholeheartedly welcome this contribution from The Children's Society as a further, valuable resource for all those who work with young carers and their families” Ivan Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Care Services and Kevin Brennan MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children.

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