


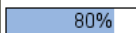


SAHSCP Young Carers Strategy 2021-2026

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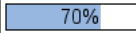




1. I am safe, healthy and active					
Action	Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
YCS 1.01	Claire Flanagan	31-Mar-2026			<p>25-Sep-2023 7 GP surgeries have volunteered to participate in a pilot to improve identification of young carers in primary care. All staff (admin and clinical) will complete an in-person training session and resources will be provided to the surgeries (leaflets, posters, visuals for screen displays). There will be a dedicated link/QR code to monitor the impact of this pilot. The baseline for referrals from primary care is zero. Primary care is a fantastic avenue for identifying young carers, meaning we can offer support to ensure they have similar outcomes to their peers who are not caring and ensure their caring role is sustainable – reducing any potential impact on services.</p> <p>Working with Barnardos to develop and host roadshows with our short film, 'The Weekend', in all secondary schools to raise awareness of who a young carer is to increase self-identification and peer understanding and challenge stigma. Due to the topic of parental substance use, we are partnering with Barnardo (who offer support for young people supporting a loved one due to problematic substance use) to deliver these sessions so that young people can access one or both services for support.</p> <p>Work begins with primary aged young people in November 2023 on our 'Wee Carers' movie. Two young people who worked on 'The Weekend' will be peer mentors for this project. We are hoping to launch with another Oscars night in February 2024.</p> <p>New school policy and management guidelines developed. Awaiting for change to SEEMiS to be implemented so this can be included in the documentation and then will be sent to Education for authorisation to disseminate to all schools.</p> <p>New training package developed for education settings and includes</p>





						video and accompanying resources. Awaiting SEEMIS update to be implemented so this can be included within the resources before dissemination to schools.
YCS 1.02	Ensure that all policies take young carers into account.	Aaron Cyr	31-Mar-2026			<p>12-Jul-2023 The HSCP Planning & Performance team support with policy development and to help ensure all Carers taken into account when developing/refreshing strategies and policies. South Ayrshire is also presently an 'Established' Carer Positive Employer with Human Resources considerations for Carers when Policy is being developed.</p> <p>Ongoing discussions during policy development will be required with Strategy Leads to ensure that all policies take account of Carers.</p>
YCS 1.03	Develop clear pathways and protocols for supporting young carers in health and social care, education and relevant Community Planning partner services.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Dec-2023			<p>25-Sep-2023 Tutoring pilot – completed June. Each pupil was matched with an Education student from UWS. The student liaised with the pupil's class teacher and created fun and engaging sessions to support the pupil on a one to one basis. Two pupils had face to face tutoring sessions and four pupils had online sessions. Feedback from the Head Teacher, class teachers, pupils and students has been extremely positive and we are planning to work with UWS to replicate this on a larger scale this academic year.</p> <p>HT commented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in confidence in all pupils • Change in mindset – developed a growth mindset <p>Pupil comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I really enjoyed tutoring and my tutor was really nice. My tutor had fun activities for me to do every week.” • “I found it helpful to have someone working with just me and was there to help whenever I was stuck.” • “I wish we had tutoring more. I enjoyed it. It was really fun!” <p>All continuing students have volunteered to tutor for this academic year and YCSLO is attending UWS Education lectures on 4th October to recruit additional students with a view to expanding this initiative.</p> <p>Period products initiative – young carers and anyone who lives in</p>

						their household can request a 3-month supply of disposable and/or reusable sanitary products. These are packaged in discreet packaging and delivered to the young carer's home or a mutually agreed community setting. Since launch in July 2023, we have supplied 53 people with almost 500 boxes of disposable products and nearly 100 reusable products. Recent feedback shows all people who ordered would order again, 80% of respondents had ordered/tried reusable products for the first time and 100% of these people would continue using them. This initiative has been zero cost due to working with partners on delivery.
YCS 1.04	Continue to develop procedures for the Young Carer Statement to ensure that young carers receive person-centred, coordinated, and tailored support, through their Childs Plan, to maintain and/or improve their physical/mental health.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026			25-Sep-2023 New YCS and guidance documentation completed. Awaiting launch alongside new school policy, management guidelines, and training package.
YCS 1.05	Develop and implement a process to collect and report on carer information as required by Scottish Government on an annual basis.	Aaron Cyr	31-Dec-2021			26-Sep-2023 CF requested a change to the configuration of SEEMiS to allow quick and accurate reporting on young carers for the Scottish Government Carers Census. Date of identification, date of YCS offer, date of YCS completion and date of YCS review will now be recorded by Education staff within SEEMiS.
YCS 1.06	Review the Local Eligibility Criteria on an annual basis and revise the document where necessary, ensuring that young carers, relevant staff and partners are consulted with on any changes.		31-Mar-2026			20-Feb-2023 Eligibility criteria to be reviewed at next strategy group meeting.
YCS 1.07	Develop a clear pathway for young carers linked to palliative care and life-limiting illness, including bereavement support.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2024			31-Jan-2022 Multiagency short life working group to be formed to develop process for identification and forum for planning support.
YCS 1.08	Review the Short Break Statement on an annual basis and revise the document where necessary, ensuring that young carers, relevant staff and partners are notified of any changes.		31-Mar-2026			20-Feb-2023 Working with Carers Trust Scotland to review Short Break Statement and ensure it is 'young person friendly'. The Young Carers Advisory Group will create an easy read version and recommend changes. This will then be used as a nest practice example nationally.
YCS 1.09	Ensure that arrangements, such as home respite, are in place to support the cared for person when a young carer is on a short break or taking time out from their caring role.		31-Mar-2022			31-Jan-2022 Where identified in Child's Plan and YCS arrangements are in place with commissioned services to provide short break / time out.
YCS 1.10	Work in partnership with South Ayrshire Alcohol	Claire	31-Mar-2026			25-Sep-2023 Working with partners (Barnardos, ACA, We Are With

	and Drug Partnership (ADP) to identify and put in place appropriate support for young carers where either parental, or their own, substance misuse is an issue.	Flanagan; Russell Hamilton				You) and young people to develop a resource for secondary aged young people on problematic substance use. The young people involved in this will then work with primary aged children to develop a resource suitable for their age and stage. Working with Barnardos to deliver joint awareness raising sessions to all secondary aged pupils in South Ayrshire.
YCS 1.11	Develop a safe South Ayrshire online chat forum for young carers.		31-Dec-2021			31-Jan-2022 During lockdown Young Carers Centre developed online forums to support. Whatsapp group established by them and in current use.
YCS 1.12	Provide free leisure access to all young carers in line with provision for looked after children.	Alistair Mutch	31-Dec-2023			20-Feb-2023 • Requested additional benefits for the card: YC able to take a friend/family member, age limit lowered to allow young YC to benefit, lessons specifically for YC (swimming/diving/gym inductions) – being reviewed by Leisure. • Code for YC available from Thriving Communities to allow booking of all chargeable activities free of charge. • Activ8 card being extended to age 25 (Young Adult Carers) from January 2023. Activ8+ card will be made available to under 8s (plus specific over 8s). This allows same benefits as Activ8 plus an additional person can benefit from the same (sibling/parent/carer/friend).
YCS 1.13	Put in place a central gateway for young carers to access support through universal and targeted services.		31-Dec-2022			31-Jan-2022 GIRFEC and Team Around the Child is the pathways for assessment and support for young carers. Work needs done to ensure that pathways for needs arising from YCS are in place.
YCS 1.14	Encourage all Community Planning Partners to work towards a Carer Positive Award.	Susan McCardie	31-Dec-2022			20-Feb-2023 Attended CPP Board to present about Carer Positive Award 27th October 22 and met with organisations following the meeting to discuss what they could do within their organisation for young and adult carers.
YCS 1.15	Identify funding to improve support for young carers.		31-Mar-2026			26-Sep-2023 Funding source identified for professionals to apply for direct funding for young carers. This has been very successful and the following have been secured to support our young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple P7 Dolphin House residentials • Ipads • Laptops • Guitar plus one year of lessons

						<p>Successful funding application to provide transport to Marr College pupils for weekly rowing sessions by Scottish Rowing on the River Ayr during season (April to October).</p> <p>Application submitted to Ayrshire Charitable Trust for a late breakfast club at Ayr Academy – decision expected early October 2023.</p> <p>68 Time to Live fund applications via carers service.</p>
YCS 1.16	Link to the work of the Champions Board for Care Experienced Children and young people where areas of focus are the same or similar.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026			<p>25-Sep-2023 Planning underway for joint event with care experienced young people at Ayrshire College on 24th October 2023. This was a very successful event last year and hoping to have more young carers attend due to the increase in numbers and engagement.</p> <p>Group of young people who are both care experienced and young carers have been identified. DP/CF working together to review support and needs of this group. Updated report on this group received monthly.</p> <p>We joined forces with the Champions Board to deliver an input to Police Scotland at Ayr Police Station. During the session, we were able to discuss the similarities and differences between young carers and care experienced young people, as well as raise awareness of both groups.</p>
YCS 1.17	Consider the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on young carers.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Dec-2023			<p>20-Feb-2023 • [Smoking] ASH Scotland training been disseminated to all staff, with courses beginning after summer.</p> <p>• [Mental Health] Worked with Dr Pamela Campbell (NHS) & Thriving Communities to develop a package for young carer's mental and physical health and wellbeing. Worked with focus group of young carers in Girvan & used Scottish Government HWB survey data.</p> <p>Piloted a wellbeing day with mental and physical health activities and YC at Girvan. Self Care pack designed by the young people which will accompany the training day.</p>

2. I am nurtured, achieving and respected



Action	Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
YCS 2.01	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026		<div style="width: 60%;"><div style="background-color: #4f81bd; height: 10px;"></div></div> 60%	26-Sep-2023 Young Carer Voice Network meeting at Dolphin House in March 2023. Young Carer Ambassadors from Carrick Academy have joined the Young Carer Strategy Implementation Group to provide lived experience input at a strategic level.
YCS 2.02	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026		<div style="width: 75%;"><div style="background-color: #4f81bd; height: 10px;"></div></div> 75%	26-Sep-2023 New young carer activities developed and/or supported by HSCP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 week figure skating block (Changing Lives Through Sport) Scottish Rowing sessions continued and now offered to Marr College pupils. Free scuba/mermaid sessions at Ayr Show Free wristbands for unlimited access to fun fair at the Ayr Show. Family passes for free entry to Culzean. Christmas days out at Dalleagles House (Honeypot) Carers Parliament (8th November) Young Carers Festival Little Art School sessions Family residential at the National Sports Centre in Largs
YCS 2.03	Jamie Tait	31-Mar-2026		<div style="width: 60%;"><div style="background-color: #4f81bd; height: 10px;"></div></div> 60%	20-Feb-2023 All Young Carers are met in senior phase by our Thriving Communities school officers to help with early transition planning, this is done in partnership with Skills Development Scotland. The support offered in school varies depending on the needs of the young person. Young carers are also discussed at our tracking meetings when they progress to Ayrshire College to support them to sustain.
YCS 2.04	Claire Flanagan;	31-Dec-2024		<div style="width: 60%;"><div style="background-color: #4f81bd; height: 10px;"></div></div> 60%	05-Aug-2022 • Link back to YCS 1.3, 1.4, 2.3.


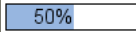

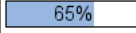

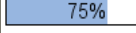

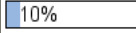

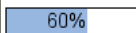


		Russell Hamilton				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Carers now tracked through Ayrshire College. • CF joined Ayrshire College steering group. • MCMC Coordinators now tracking Young Carers through school & will offer support if required.
YCS 2.05	Continue to monitor young carers' experiences through a variety of methods including, focus groups, surveys, comments, concerns and complaints and use this information to ensure we are making progress on our actions.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026			25-Sep-2023 Each secondary school in South Ayrshire has engaged in hosting monthly drop-in sessions, allowing consistent, local and easily accessible support for all teen young carers. This also provides an opportunity for young people who think they may be young carers to reach out for information and advice and reduces stigma due to increasing visibility in schools on a regular basis.
YCS 2.06	Develop a range of age appropriate resources and clear information for young carers which can be easily accessed when required.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026			25-Sep-2023 Young carers developed an information booklet which is shared with schools, organisations and at awareness raising sessions. Working with comms to updated young carer HSCP web page.

3. I am responsible and included

Action	Assigned To	Due Date	Status	Progress	Latest Note
YCS 3.01	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026			<p>26-Sep-2023 We premiered our awareness raising short film, The Weekend, with A Night at the Oscars. This provided a local platform to raise the profile of young carers. The young carers involved in the project participated in a Question & Answer session. The event was attended by almost 300 people, including the Chief Executive, Elected Members, Police Scotland, colleagues from the Council, Health & Social Care Partnership, Health, 3rd Sector services, and members of the public. The event was also featured in local press in print and online. Twitter coverage can be found using the hashtag #SAYCMovie.</p> <p>Carers Week: This year was our most action-packed Carers Week to date! We worked in partnership with the South Ayrshire carers centre team and partners to provide a bigger-than-ever week long celebration of young carers. There were a whopping 22 experiences on offer for our young carers, which included session with The Little Art School, a film screening, wellbeing walks, trips to the escape rooms, ice-cream days and park trips.</p>

					<p>Employability & Skills hosted an amazing employability festival at the Cutty Sark for young carers with activities, stalls from various organisations, live music and food. As well as having the opportunity to discuss opportunities with stall holders, the young carers who attended enjoyed interactive games wearing goggles which simulated the effects of drugs and alcohol which included trying to erect a tent!</p> <p>As well as celebrating with our young carers, we had a social media takeover, articles in local press, held information stalls across the Authority and participated in a Facebook Live session hosted by the Champions Board to raise awareness.</p> <p>Young Carers Action Day: We celebrated Young Carers Action Day on 15th March this year. We had a social media takeover for the day and shared posts including pledges colleagues to support young carers, artwork from young carers and awareness raising information. The Wallace Tower was lit up purple to raise awareness.</p> <p>Two young carers from Marr College were invited to join a panel in a webinar hosted by Education Scotland and Carers Trust Scotland to launch a new CPD accredited module on young carers (which features our short film!). Craig and Stephanie spoke very well about their experiences and challenges in Education due to their caring role and asked the rest of the panel some tricky questions of their own!</p> <p>Active April: Young carers throughout South Ayrshire explored the importance and benefits of being physically active during Active April. Lots of activities were on offer for young carers, including, beach days, walking groups and a trip to Hampden Park. Awareness raising and sign-up sessions for Activ8 memberships were held in each locality.</p> <p>Troon Carers Day: The first Troon Carers Day was held in February 2023. This was a very successful event and the first Carers Day that young carers have been invited to. There were a multitude of services with stalls at the event, fantastic entertainment from Marr College and local primary school pupils, including a pipe band,</p>
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						<p>singing and dancing, and a preview showing of our young carer short film, The Weekend.</p> <p>Two of our young carers who were involved in the video project and subsequent awareness raising sessions were recognised by their school, Belmont Academy, in the annual Broad General Education Prizegiving. Heather and Caleb were presented an Achievement Award for 'Contribution to raising awareness for Young Carers in South Ayrshire'. Heather was also awarded a Blue Peter badge for sharing her lived experience as a young carer in awareness raising activities, which has included the video project, several newspaper articles, a Facebook Live session, presenting at the Child Protection Committee, and hosting a number of other events to raise the profile of young carers in South Ayrshire.</p> <p>Humans of Scotland – Bonnie (Young Adult Carer), Ailish (Young Carer Ambassador - Carrick Academy), Joshua (Young Carer Ambassador - Carrick Academy), and Eileen Neil (Young Carer Champion - Carrick Academy) have been filmed/interviewed for a new documentary by Alliance Scotland in June and also at the Concert for Caring. This is a national campaign to raise awareness and we will have access to the resources for our own use locally. A written article has already been published online.</p> <p>Prestwick Carers Day: 29th September 2023</p> <p>Girvan Carers Day: 24th November 2023</p>
YCS 3.02	Work with young carers and key partners to develop a Young Carers' Promise, consolidating the rights and key principles for supporting young carers.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2026		<input type="text" value="10%"/>	20-Feb-2023 Will progress once the YCVG has had time to establish.
YCS 3.03	Develop and promote a Carer Identification Card for young carers. Exploring opportunities to use the card as a mechanism to identify carers and provide carers with local discounts.		31-Dec-2024		<input type="text" value="50%"/>	26-Sep-2023 We are working with Thriving Communities to develop Carer Recognition Card for young and adult carers. Awaiting GDPR sign off from Legal and keen to engage local businesses to offer discounts/rewards for unpaid carers. Card will be launched with

						window stickers showing the card is supported by organisation/business.
YCS 3.04	Develop a clear pathway to support young carers at the point of hospital discharge.	Claire Flanagan	31-Dec-2024			25-Sep-2023 2 x hospital discharge workers employed by East Ayrshire Carers Service. Regular meetings to monitor referrals. Service is included within the new carer service contract.
YCS 3.05	Establish a Young Carers Reference Group, with representation from young carers and the organisations, who support young carers and strengthen links with other relevant groups e.g. Youth Forum.	Claire Flanagan	31-Dec-2023			25-Sep-2023 Young Carer Voice Network established – 50+ young carers of all ages. Plan to establish a Young Carer Group (name TBD) of 6-8 young carers early next year.
YCS 3.06	Identify opportunities to improve equalities of outcomes for young carers with protected characteristics and identify opportunities to promote good relations.		31-Mar-2026			31-Jan-2022 Council policy and procedure such as Equality Impact Assessments and the Integration of the UNCRC principles to policy to partially achieve. Furth work to be done with reference group to identify inequality and consider how to address through positive action
YCS 3.07	The new HSCP Strategic Advocacy Plan will ensure that advocacy support for young carers is a priority.	Russell Hamilton	31-Dec-2024			26-Sep-2023 The HSCP Strategic Advocacy Plan is currently being progressed by the planning and performance team with the aim to have a draft written by early 2024. (Rachael Graham)
YCS 3.08	Establish a training programme for young carers. Including manual handling, fire safety, housing issues and finance / benefit advice etc.	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2024			20-Feb-2023 • Working with My Bnk and Champs Board to provide financial literacy training for YC 2023. • Liaising with internal and external colleagues to understand what training can be provided by colleagues. • Fire service providing first aid, fire safety, Naloxone, CPR training 2023. Thriving Communities providing first aid training in secondary schools for young carers.
YCS 3.09	Consider ways to improve transport for young carers, particularly in rural areas, to ensure they can access services; support and activities (could include mixed age options with Older People).	Claire Flanagan; Russell Hamilton	31-Mar-2023			20-Feb-2023 YCS funding available to support young carers who highlight travel as a barrier on their Young Carers Statement