

## 2-minute briefing

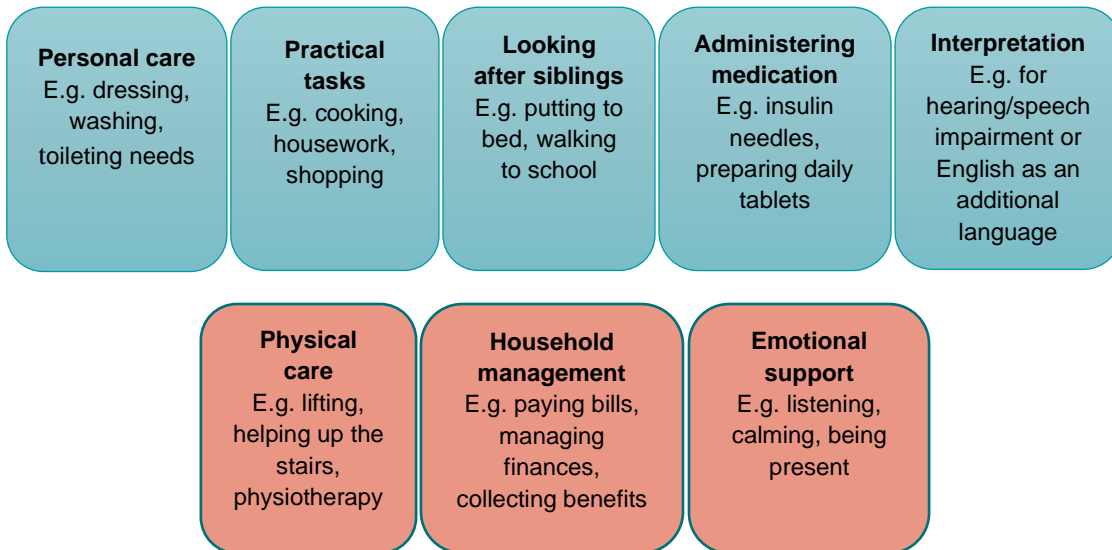
# Young Carers

**Who are Young Carers?**  
 Young Carers are young people under 18 who help to look after someone in their family who is ill, disabled, or misuses drugs or alcohol. They carry out, often on a regular basis, significant or substantial caring tasks and assume a level of responsibility which would normally be associated with an adult”.

**What the Law says**  
 The Children and Families Act 2014 introduced new rights for Young Carers.  
 Since April 2015, Young Carers are entitled to an assessment of their needs by the local authority. The needs assessment should evaluate how the needs of the person being cared for have an impact on the needs of the child.

- Indicators:**
- Often late or missing days or weeks off school for no reason
  - Often tired, anxious or withdrawn
  - Having problems socially or with making friends? Conversely, do they get on well with adults and present themselves as mature for their age
  - A victim of bullying? This is sometimes explicitly linked to a family member’s disability, health or substance misuse problem.
  - Finding it difficult to concentrate on their work
  - Having difficulty in joining in extra-curricular activities or is unable to attend school trips?
  - Not handing in homework on time, or completing it late and to a low standard
  - Displaying behavioral problems
  - Secretive about home life
  - Showing signs of neglect or poor diet

The nature of the care provided by Young Carers can be very broad and include:



**Further information**

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[Caring for someone - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](http://northlincs.gov.uk)

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