

# Young Carers Charter of Rights



# United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child

A partnership between Glasgow Association for Mental Health Young Carer's Project and Article 12 – Scotland's Peer Education Skills Training Project was formed in 2010 to support young carers learning and participation on rights as set out in international human rights charters.

The young carers took part in a 1 year peer education and skills training programme and organised two events which led to the development of the GAMH Young Carers Charter of Rights. The young carers were asked to identify the rights in the UNCRC that they felt were most relevant to the lives of young carers. They gave examples of how a particular right could be used to enhance the lives of young carers as well as coming up with their own additions such as **The Right to be Spoiled.**



A purple starburst shape with a white drop shadow, centered on a light purple background. The text inside is white and reads: 

**Young carers  
have the right  
to be spoiled**

# GAMH Young Carers Charter of Rights

## **Article 26:**

Governments should provide extra money for young people from families in need. This is particularly relevant in terms of the Carer's Allowance as it is only available to over 16's.

## **Article 4:**

Governments should work to make these rights available to all young people.

**Governments should do more to make the public more aware about the lives of young carers through different activities and events.**

## **Article 15:**

Young people have the right to meet together and to join organisations as long as this doesn't stop others from enjoying their rights.

**Young carers should be treated equally... no one should be judged because of their family situations.**

## **Article 1:**

Every young person under the age of 18 has all the rights in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, regardless of their personal or family situation.

## **Article 16:**

Young people have the right to privacy.

## **Article 6:**

All young people have the right to life. Governments should ensure that young people survive and develop healthily.



**Article 27:**

Young people have the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their needs. Governments should help families provide this.

**Article 3:**

All organisations that work with or for young people should work towards what is best for each child or young person.

**Article 5:**

Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of families to direct and guide their children so that as they grow, they learn to use their rights properly. Families and services working with families need to recognise that although young carers have a very 'adult' role within the family, they still need space to be young people and still need guidance.



**Young carers should have the right to receive extra support from schools, colleges and universities to help them with coursework, exams and deadlines.**

**Article 12 (1):**

Young people have the right to voice their opinion on matters that affect them and have those opinions taken into account. Many services and professionals may be involved with a young carer's family and they should consult with the family when decisions are being made about them.

**Article 23:**

Young people who care for family members should receive support for themselves and the family members so that they can lead full and independent lives.

**Article 12 (2):**

Young people have the right to voice their opinion on matters that affect them and have those opinions taken into account. Young carers have lots of responsibility within the home and should be treated accordingly and have their opinions respected when decisions are being made about their family.

**Article 13:**

Young people have the right to receive and share information as long as it is not harmful to them and others. Young carers have a right to information about young carers groups, support services, services for their family and what those services should be doing for their families.

# Consultation/Response Sheet

We would like to share our learning with you. Many young carers are not aware of their rights as set out by the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child. If young people are unaware of what their rights are, then how can they be sure that they are getting the support and opportunities that they are entitled to? We would appreciate it if you could answer the following questions:

**Are you aware of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child?**

Yes

No

**If yes, where did you learn about it?**

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**Can you have a look at the list and pick the rights that should be prioritised for young carers?**

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**Is there anything that you would like to add to the list that isn't already there?**

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**Any other comments:**

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**Thank you for time**

**Give us  
your  
opinion!**

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone Number:

Email:



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