

Explore More! Support fund for young carers aged 15 and under

Guidance notes

This grant programme is made possible thanks to funding from the Pears Foundation. The funding has been provided by Carers Trust to Caring Together to enable us to support young carers aged 15 and under across Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Norfolk to access similar opportunities to those as their peers.

We have got a limited amount of money and so will try to support as many young carers as possible. Decisions will be made by a panel of Caring Together staff and Young Adult Carers on what will make the most difference given the money available. All applications made each round will be assessed alongside each other.

Key information

Young carers (aged 15 and under) from Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Norfolk can apply for grants of up to £100 if they need funds to **access opportunities that their peers can access.**

Examples of eligible items and activities include, but are not limited to:

- Costs associated with sports/recreational activities (e.g. entrance fees, transport costs etc.)
- Purchase of activity related equipment (e.g. sports kits and clothing)
- Tuition which builds on a demonstrated interest/talent (e.g. music tuition)
- Attendance on school/club/group organised trips
- Access to short term counselling support until statutory provision is made available (no more than 5 sessions)
- Access to additional educational tuition and education related equipment
- Purchase of laptops, tablets and software.

What will the Fund NOT cover?

It is helpful to be clear about what this fund will not support from the outset:

- Activities for young carers aged 16 or over
- Replacement of household equipment
- Ongoing financial support i.e. regular payments for bills or management of household or individual debts e.g. credit card or catalogue payments
- Costs associated with accessing driving lessons or operating a petrol operated road vehicle (e.g. mopeds, scooters etc.).

How to apply

- You will need to complete an application form and email it to hello@caringtogether.org
- There will be two rounds:
 - **Round 1: Closing Friday 6 December 2019, 12pm**
 - **Round 2: Closing Wednesday 15 January 2019, 12pm**
- If you apply in Round 1 and are unsuccessful, you are still eligible to be considered in Round 2.
- It will help if you can provide quotes or links where possible to show the costs (although it is not essential as, if successful, you will be required to submit receipts to show the money was used for the purpose awarded)

When will you hear back?

When you apply, we will reply to confirm receipt of your application and give an indication of when you will hear back. We have got two rounds for applications:

- Round 1: Closes Friday 6th December at 12pm
- Round 2: Closes Wednesday 15th January at 12pm

We hope to communicate decisions within one week of these deadlines.

What happens if you are successful?

- If you are successful, we will contact you requesting some key information (which includes bank information as well as demographic information which we require for our funders). Payment will only be made once this information has been returned.
- Payments will be made by BACS – this will be to the young carer or their parent, unless it makes more sense to pay directly to an organisation (e.g. if it is paying for tuition costs). Payments need to go through our accounts department.
- Once you have purchased what the grant was awarded for, you will need to provide a receipt. Failure to provide a receipt or satisfactory proof of purchase may result in Caring Together seeking to reclaim the money awarded.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about this grant, or wish to check about the status of your application, please contact Chloe Turner – chloe-ann.turner@caringtogether.org (Round 1) or Becca Browne (Round 2) – becca.browne@caringtogether.org