**Young Carers Books**

**Age 3 to 7 years**

* The Pond by Nicola Davies
  + The Pond' is a touching picture book about a young boy and his family, overcoming the loss of his father through a small pond in the garden. This colourful, emotional book is filled with natural imagery and will teach children not only about death, and loss, but the importance of the natural world.
* Grandad’s Medal by Phil Earle
  + Marvin loves going on his adventures with his granddad - escaping from hairy yetis, taking daytrips to Mars and hunting ferocious tigers - all without leaving the house. Marvin thinks his granddad is the bravest person he's ever met; he even has a medal from the war to prove it. And, more than anything else, Marvin want us to be brave too. But when Grandad must go on his final adventure alone, Marvin finds he has to be braver than he's ever been before. Until he discovers that Grandad has left behind a very special surprise just for him.
* The Building Boy by Ross Montgomery and David Litchfield
  + When the boy's grandma dies, he finds all of her old building materials in the garden shed – the girders and cement and bricks. At night, through wind, snow and rain, he builds a structure in the garden. A giant iron woman with soft tissue hands. And when he's finished, she comes to life!
* Stewart’s Tree by Cathy Campbell
  + This colourful picture book for children aged 3+ offers a comforting story for grieving families, helping to explain sibling loss shortly after birth. It then focuses on the happy memories of a lost child and looks towards the future. Includes a guide to bereavement written by qualified clinicians.
* Goodbye Grandma by Melanie Walsh
  + When a little boy is told that his grandma has died, he isn't really sure what death means. In this reassuring lift-the-flap book with bold and colourful illustrations, he asks his mum important questions about death and bereavement. Why do people have to die? What happens to them once they are dead? What can he do to remember his grandma?
* Travels with my Granny by Juliet Rix and Christopher Corr
  + A sensitive introduction to old-age confusion and dementia, through the loving and imaginative relationship between Granny and her grandchild - and their colourful journeys.

**Age 8 to 11 years**

* Moon Pie by Simon Mason
  + Eleven-year-old Martha is used to being the one who has to keep her head. Tug, her little brother, is too small. Dad is too strange. And Mum's not here anymore. So when Dad falls off the roof, it's Martha who ices his knee and takes him to the doctor. And when Dad doesn’t come home, it's Martha who cooks Tug's favourite pie and reads him his bedtime story. And when Dad passes out, it's Martha who cleans him up and keeps his secret. But eventually Dad's problems become too big for even Martha to solve. There is only one person who can sort things out now. Dad.
* The Illustrated Mum by Jacqueline Wilson
  + Dolphin adores her mother: she's got wonderful clothes, bright hair and vivid tattoos all over her body. She definitely lives a colourful life. Dolphin's older sister, Star, also loves her but is beginning to wonder if staying with a mum whose temper can be as flashy as her body-art is the best thing for the girls.
* Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans
  + Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo – a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world - and solving Elliot's problems too?
* Echo’s Sister by Paul Mosher
  + Everything will be great. But when her dad picks her up after school and tells her that her younger sister, Echo, has a life-threatening illness, her world is suddenly turned upside down. And with her parents now pressed for time and money, El feels lost and powerless. Then she befriends Octavius, the only other kid in school who gets what she's going through. As El begins to adjust to her new life, she soon finds that maybe a little hope and a lot of love can overcome any obstacle.
* Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot by Horatio Clare
  + Adventurous Aubrey is a happy little boy who enjoys Night Venturing. Entering his fierce and vivid imagination as he lies in bed, he explores the forest outside and finds that he can talk to the animals there. But one day, a horrible sadness - the Terrible Yoot - takes hold of his father and won’t let go. Aubrey travels into his imagination to find a solution and finds that he can help his father by confronting the Terrible Yoot together.
* Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen
  + Ade lives at the top of a tower block. From his window, he feels like he can see the whole world stretching out beneath him. His mum doesn't really like looking outside and hates going outside. She's happier sleeping all day inside their tower, where it's safe. But one day, other tower blocks on the estate start falling down around them and strange, menacing plants begin to appear. Ade and his mum are trapped and there's no way out.

**Age 12 year +**

* Boy21 by Matthew Quick
  + Basketball has always been an escape for Finley. He lives in grey, broken Belmont, a town ruled by the Irish Mob, drugs, violence, and racially charged rivalries. At home, he takes care of his disabled grandfather, and at school he's called White Rabbit, the only white kid on the varsity basketball team. He's always dreamed of getting out somehow with his girlfriend, Erin.
* Don’t Stop Thinking About Tomorrow by Siobhan Curham
  + Fourteen-year-old Stevie lives in Lewes with her beloved vinyl collection, her mum, and her mum's depression. When Stevie's mum's disability benefits are cut, Stevie and her mother are plunged into a life of poverty. But irrepressible Stevie is determined not to be beaten and she takes inspiration from the lyrics of her father's 1980s record collection and dreams of a life as a musician.
* You Don’t Care by
  + Jordan likes Hannah even though his friend says she’s bad news. Jordan is sure it’s just gossip... until Hannah starts cancelling their plans for no reason. Hannah likes Jordan, but she has to look after her dad and sister. She can’t always find time to go out and have fun. Does Jordan care more about what his friend says than he does about Hannah?
* The Impossible Knife of Memory by Laurie Halse Anderson
  + For the past five years, Hayley Kincaid and her father, Andy, have been on the road, never staying long in one place as he struggles to escape the demons that have tortured him since his return from Iraq. Now they are back in the town where he grew up.
* The Names The Gave Us by Emery Lord
  + Lucy Hansson's mums cancer reappears, Lucy falters - in her faith and in her ability to cope. When her boyfriend 'pauses' their relationship and her summer job switches to a different camp – one for troubled kids - Lucy isn't sure how much more she can handle. Attempting to accept a new normal, Lucy slowly regains footing among her vibrant, diverse co-workers, Sundays with her mum, and a crush on a fellow counsellor. But when long-hidden family secrets emerge, can Lucy set aside her problems and discover what grace really means?
* Tender by Evie Ainsworth
  + Marty and Daisy spend their lives pretending. Marty pretends his mum's grip on reality isn't slipping by the day. Daisy pretends her parents aren't burning out while they look after her incurably ill brother. They both pretend they're fine. But the thing about pretending is, at some point, it has to stop. And then what?
* Red Sky in the Morning by Elizabeth Laird
  + Anna will never forget the night her brother was born. The doctors say Ben is profoundly disabled and will never lead a normal life. Her family struggles to come to terms with their baby, but for Anna it's love at first sight.
* Looking After Mum by
  + Dani is looking forward to Matt’s birthday meal with their friends at the local pizza place. But Matt doesn’t show up. Then, when Matt doesn’t reply to her texts, Dani is upset. She can’t believe Matt is the kind of guy who’d behave like that. But Matt has problems of his own at home. Problems that he can’t bear to share with anyone, least of all his friends. Will Dani discover the truth?
* The Best Medicine by
  + Philip's happy-go-lucky life is disrupted when his mother gets breast cancer. Bad enough that your mother is seriously ill - but could she not have developed a less embarrassing kind of cancer - toe cancer, maybe, or ear cancer? Philip's attempt to cope with his situation are both hilarious and touching. Through it all, he's writing letters to his hero, the comedian Harry Hill, looking for advice. Harry Hill remains stonily silent, and Philip has to get by without his advice. In the end, though, Harry Hill comes up trumps.
* Holding Up the Universe by Jennifer Niven
  + Everyone thinks they know Libby Stout, the girl once dubbed 'America's Fattest Teen'. But no one's taken the time to look past her weight to get to see who she really is. Since her mum's death, she's been picking up the pieces in the privacy of her home, dealing with her heartbroken father and her own grief. Now, Libby's ready: for high school, for new friends, for love and for every possibility life has to offer.