

04 Barriers to learning: a checklist to use with pupils

The aim of this checklist is to aid assessment and highlight any specific barriers a young carer might be facing in order to inform what support needs to be put in place and what should be included in a personalised plan.

The questions are not intended to be used in a quick 'one-stop questioning session', and instead careful thought needs to be given as to when and how and by whom the questions are used.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review	Yes	No	Notes
Do you have problems attending school, or being late for school? Is this because of: → your caring role or as a result of your caring role? → difficulties with transport to school? You don't want to come to school? – Can you say why?			
Are you able to go to after-school clubs and activities? Is there any after-school club or activity that you would like to go, but you are unable to?			
Are you able to concentrate and focus on your school work?			
Do you feel isolated at school?			
Do you feel different from other pupils?			
Do you feel there is anybody who understands your experiences and who listens to you?			
Do you have friends at school?			
Do you feel supported at school?			
Are you motivated to do your school work?			
Do you feel confident to share with other pupils about your caring role?			
Do you feel tired at school? Is this because of your caring role at home?			

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review	Yes	No	Notes
Are you stressed or worried about someone's safety or health?			
Are you able to concentrate during exams?			
Do you feel confident talking to staff?			
Do you feel angry at school?			
Do you want to go on to college, university or further training?			
Are you being bullied?			
Are your parent(s) able to attend parent's evenings and other school events?			
Do you have difficulty in completing homework or coursework due to your caring role?			
Do you have a room or space to study at home, free from disturbances?			
Do you have a computer to work on at home?			
Are you tired at home because of your caring responsibilities?			
Is someone able to support you with your work at home?			
Are you getting support from your parent(s) around the choices you have to make when you leave school – such as going to college/ university/ getting a job?			
Do you feel able to do what you really want when you leave school?			
Are you missing out on Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) due to your caring responsibilities and home situation?			
Is there anything else you can think of that's getting in the way of your school work?			