



Volunteer Drivers, Young Carers Project

The Project uses volunteer drivers to take children and young people to and from our activities. Often parents of young carers find it difficult to transport their children. In many cases if we don't offer transport the young carers wouldn't be able to come along to the clubs, groups and activities

The Project has used Taxi's to help transport some of our young people to our clubs and activities. This has proved expensive and offers an impersonal service to the children and young people. Volunteer drivers will help reduce costs but also provide scope to offer continuity and build trust between the young carers and their families.

All journeys are co-ordinated by the Young Carers Project Staff members and the amount of driving hours required will vary according to the amount of activities on during the month and driver(s) availability.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver, then please contact the Project on 01273 234045 and ask to speak to Richard Lambert. The Project CRB checks all potential candidates and also requires information the MOT, Service History on the vehicle as well as asking for a brief medical history and driving licence record

The Carers Centre has a Volunteer Driving Policy, which will be sent out to anyone who expresses an interest. Volunteer drivers have been used since 2006 and have been highly valued by the Project and the young people. In a recent interview in an of Carers News, Patrick, one of our regular volunteer drivers stated:

'I have a deep respect of what the young carers do, and it is very refreshing to see them enjoying the company of other children who understand what it is to be a young carer: to have responsibility for an adult or a sibling, to have little respite from their responsibilities, to be unable to make commitments with after school activities. Young carers can get picked on by other children who see them as odd, natural enough for kids but so unfair seen from adult eyes. I enjoy being able to help them set aside their responsibilities for a while, and it is very rewarding to see them enjoying themselves and each other'