

Case study two: Tool 6 - Engaging young carers

Young carers have told us these ten things are important. So we will do them.

- 1. Introduce yourself. Tell us who you are and what your job is.
- 2. Give us as much information as you can.
- 3. Tell us what is wrong with our parents.
- 4. Tell us what is going to happen next.
- 5. Talk to us and listen to us. Remember it is not hard to speak to us we are not aliens.
- 6. Ask us what we know and what we think. We live with our parents; we know how they have been behaving.
- 7. Tell us it is not our fault. We can feel guilty if our mum or dad is ill. We need to know we are not to blame.
- 8. Please don't ignore us. Remember we are part of the family and we live there too.
- 9. Keep on talking to us and keeping us informed. We need to know what is happening.
- 10. Tell us if there is anyone we can talk to. Maybe it could be you.

This is based on Barnardo's Keeping the Family in Mind [Liverpool] resource pack 27

Shared in ADASS and ADCS (2011) Signposts: see me, hear me, talk to me: talk to my family as well: working together to improve outcomes for young carers in families affected by enduring parental mental illness or substance misuse