Better futures for young lives with epilepsy

youngepilepsy.org.uk
At Young Epilepsy we create better futures for young lives with epilepsy. Whether you are a young person with epilepsy, parent or carer, teacher or clinician, we are here to help.

We are a national charity with over 100 years’ experience and the only one working exclusively on behalf of children and young people with epilepsy.
Around 112,000 children and young people aged 25 and under in the UK have epilepsy.
In most cases the condition can be controlled by anti epileptic drugs (AEDs) and the young person can attend mainstream school.

For some young people seizures can cause learning problems and the AEDs can lead to unwanted side effects.

Added to that is the stigma which leaves many young people battling low self-esteem, bullying and a lack of understanding from both peers and adults.

Living with epilepsy
What is epilepsy?

Epilepsy means someone is having repeated seizures (sometimes called ‘fits’). A seizure is a sudden electrical discharge in the brain that sends confused messages to the rest of the body. This results in an alteration in sensation, behaviour or consciousness which can lead to twitching of the limbs, stiffness, loss of consciousness or brief ‘absences’ where the brain switches off but the person appears normal. Seizures usually last from a few seconds to a few minutes and stop without any treatment.
How we help

The Young Epilepsy Helpline offers people the chance to speak or email confidentially with trained staff.

We provide health information for parents, carers, children and young people with epilepsy and for professionals. We deliver training across the UK to doctors, nurses, teachers, therapists, residential care and social work professionals, in schools and for families.

As the voice for children and young people with epilepsy we campaign to improve the quality of, and access to, health and education services.

Visit youngepilepsy.org.uk to find out more.
On average there is one child with epilepsy in every primary school and five in every secondary school.
We want every child and young person to have confidence, a sense of self-worth and to lead fulfilling lives.

We understand the impact that epilepsy, autism spectrum disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) along with other neurological conditions can have on a young person’s development.

We aim to inspire each student to reach their full potential and prepare them for life once they leave school or college.

Creating better futures
Our education and residential care services

We deliver positive outcomes for students through expert teaching, support and therapy as well as specialist medical facilities.

At St Piers School and St Piers College, students attend on a day or residential basis.

Students have access to a wide range of activities including our farm and horticultural centre. Sixth formers and college students attend mainstream colleges for additional learning and have the opportunity to undertake work experience with local employers.
Health services and research

Young Epilepsy is a leading provider of specialist health services for children and young people. We bring together medical, therapy and research expertise.

We offer a wide range of diagnostic, assessment, and rehabilitation services for young people aged three to 19 with epilepsy and other neurological conditions.

Young Epilepsy works in partnership with Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Institute of Child Health at University College London. This includes a programme of international paediatric epilepsy research co-ordinated by Professor Helen Cross, who holds the post of The Prince of Wales’s Chair of Childhood Epilepsy.