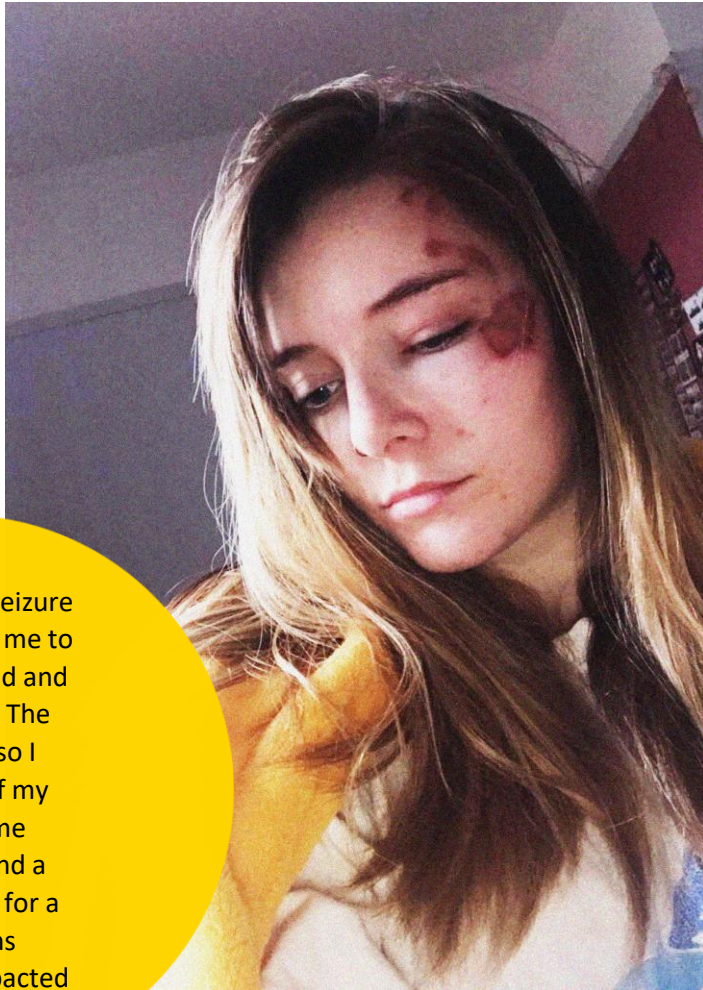




Young
Epilepsy

Youth Development and Support



'I had a violent seizure that had caused me to fall out of my bed and onto the carpet. The seizure made it so I burnt the side of my face which left me injured for around a week and a scar for a couple of months which really impacted the way I could look at myself at the time.'

Young Supporter

What we do

Young Epilepsy is the UK's only children and young people's epilepsy charity.

We exist to create a society where children and young people with epilepsy are enabled to thrive and fulfil their potential

Youth Development and Support

Youth Development and Support's work is delivered nationally through three key areas:

Support

Inclusion

Engagement and Participation

Children and young people are at the centre of everything YDS do,

Youth Support Service

Inclusion – supporting schools and education settings

Supporting young people with epilepsy: A guide for schools

Our free online Guide for Schools. Written in non-medical accessible language it provides information on supporting children and young people with epilepsy to ensure they are safe and included in all aspects of school life.

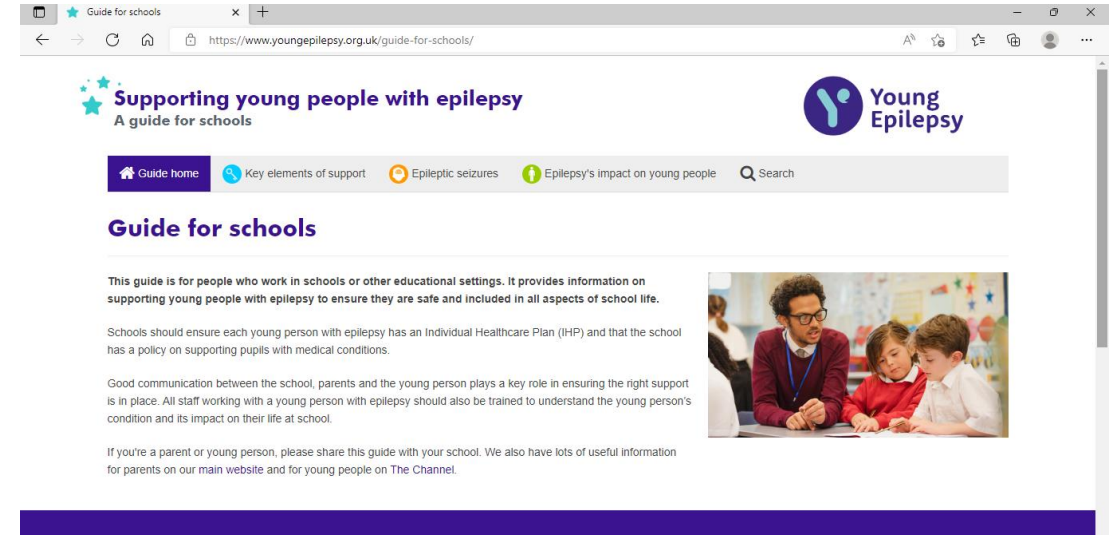
Training for education professionals

Our 'Epilepsy Awareness for Schools' and 'Epilepsy and Higher Education' online training courses are designed to give education professionals a better understanding of the impact that epilepsy can have on a child and/or young person's ability to learn as well as their psychological, social and emotional wellbeing.

We are in the process of updating our online training and looking to expand our training offer to other sectors and stakeholders.

Epilepsy Friendly universities and colleges

In 2013, we launched the Epilepsy Friendly mark, to recognise those higher education establishments who are doing more to improve their understanding of epilepsy and provide better support to their students. We will use this framework to develop an Epilepsy Positive scheme for schools and other settings.



Inclusion – training

In addition to our online training offer, our youth support workers deliver face to face training to organisations across the UK.

The service works alongside any organisation to support their understanding of epilepsy.

The training is a bought in service which is charged to the organisation or offered to any educational facility free of charge if the young person is receiving one to one support from us, in order to make the school aware of the requirements to accommodate and support that particular student and others with epilepsy enabling the young person to feel more included.

Young Epilepsy also offer Emergency medication training and this is delivered by our Nursing Team.





Inclusion – supporting children, young people and families

One to one work

Young Epilepsy offers one to one support work at community level.

This is an up to twelve-week intervention which is offered to the young person to discuss a range of needs.

Our main areas are those based around supporting the development of life skills along with understanding and supporting a young person through diagnosis by building resilience and supporting the young person to understand their rights.



Inclusion – supporting children, young people and families

Group work - intensive youth groups (Exam stress, Isolation, friendship's)

The youth workers deliver and support a drop-in group work session held for young people who need a safe place to discuss topics related to their illness.

This offers young people the time to be able to meet virtually with other young people like themselves.

Areas of discussion tend to be those around relationships, education, medication and friendships. We run these sessions online regularly, along with online virtual youth clubs starting in September 2023.



Inclusion – supporting children, young people and families

Family and young person meetups.

Young Epilepsy run quarterly family and children/young people meet ups, these have been in London, the youth team run activities for young people and discuss their condition and how it affects their lives.

Parents are able to chat in confidence with other parents and professionals about any concerns they have including school, health or medication questions.

These met up enable inclusion, build networks and offer a safe space.

Quarterly family and young person meet-up

- Fun activities for the children and young people to take part in
- Encouraging children and young people to have a voice and they are heard
- Running parents' information session with trained professionals
- Ensuring parents and children/young people have a listening ear
- Encouraging a purple family and networking



Inclusion – supporting children, young people and families

Whole family and 1:1 support for young people

Each Youth Support Coordinator has extensive experience in working with young people in providing support and advice through a range of different interventions.

All of our services offered through the youth support service require a referral form to be completed which is then assessed and allocated to the appropriate level of intervention support which is UK wide.

Anyone can refer a child or young person; Epilepsy Specialist Nurses, schools, other professionals working with families, parents and self-referrals.



Young Epilepsy Youth Team



Youth Engagement & Participation

Meet Our Young Reps

Young Epilepsy is committed to creating a society where children and young people with epilepsy thrive and fulfil their potential. To achieve this, we engage with children and young people to ensure that their experiences and views inform and guide the work that we do.

Our Young Reps are leading on this. The group is compiled of 18 young people aged 16-25 who represent children and young people living with epilepsy throughout the UK. The group is fundamental in ensuring that young people are at the centre of everything we do.

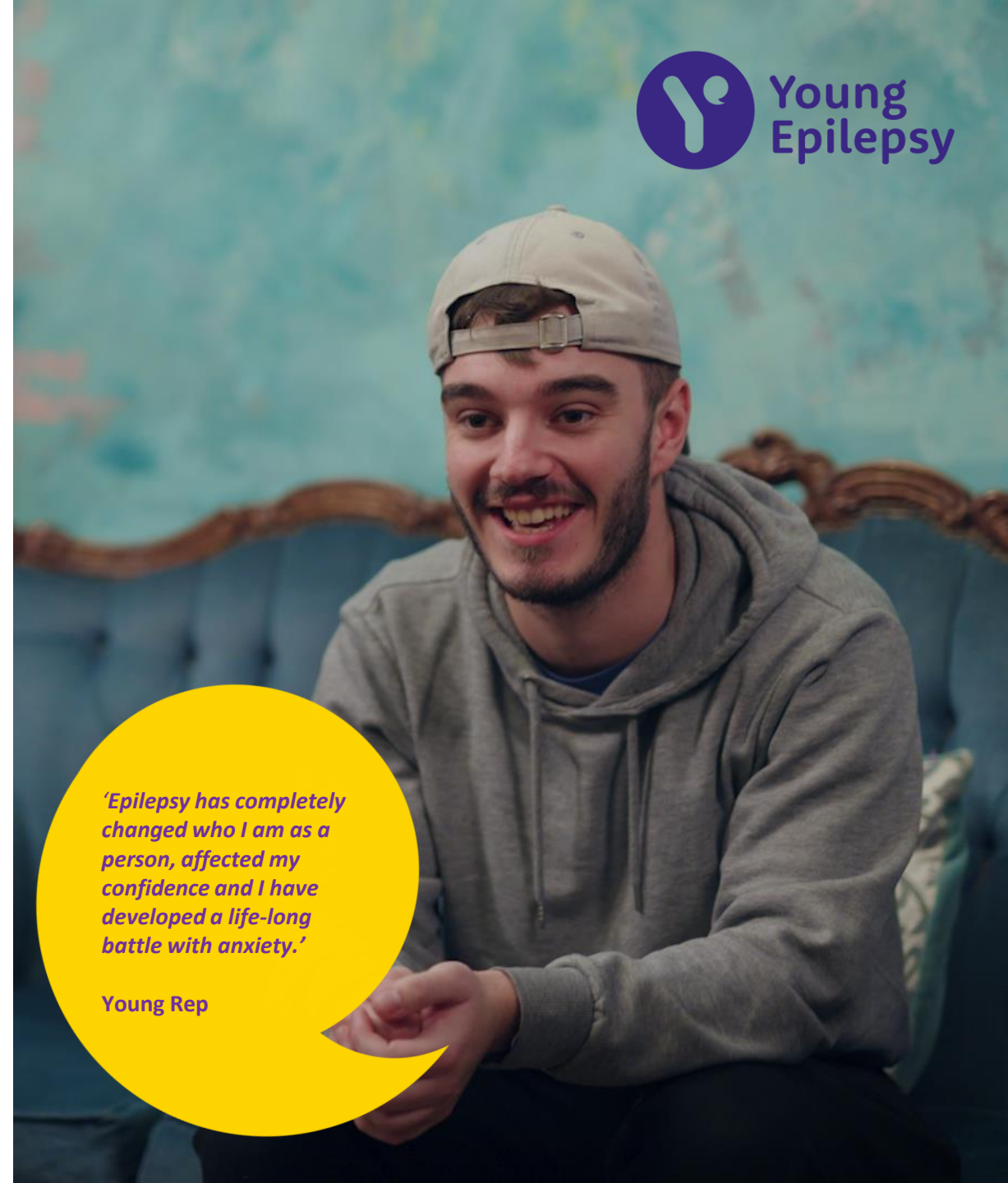
Young Reps contribute to our strategy and are involved at all levels of the charity to ensure that decisions and overall direction of services provided meet the needs of children and young people with epilepsy.

Our Young Trustees and our wider group of over 50 Young Supporters also work with us to drive key decision making and processes throughout the organisation and beyond.



'Epilepsy has completely changed who I am as a person, affected my confidence and I have developed a life-long battle with anxiety.'

Young Rep



Want to know more?

Youth Support Service: yss@youngepilepsy.org.uk

Training enquiries: training@youngepilepsy.org.uk

Online training: onlinetraining@youngepilepsy.org.uk

Guide for Schools: www.youngepilepsy.org.uk/guideforschools

The Channel: www.thechannel.org.uk

Referral form: [Referral Form](#)

TOGETHER

WWE

Create

POSSIBLE