

CAUSEWAY GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Young Carers Policy 2019

Governors Approved: July 2019

Chair of Governors: D Erkek

Review date: July 2021

Introduction

At Causeway Green School we believe that all children and young people have the right to an education, regardless of what is happening at home. When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability or substance misuse problem, he or she may need a little extra support to get the most out of school and achieve their potential.

Aims of the policy

Our school is committed to meeting the needs of Young Carers, so that they are enabled and encouraged to attend and enjoy school and have equal access to their education as their peers. Our Young Carers Policy states how we will help any pupil who helps look after someone at home.

Who are Young Carers?

Young Carers are children or young people under 18 years old who help to look after a family member who is physically or mentally ill, disabled or has a substance misuse problem.

A Young Carer may undertake some or all of the following:

- Practical tasks, for example, cooking, housework, shopping.
- Physical care, for example, lifting, helping up the stairs, physiotherapy.
- Personal care, for example, dressing, washing, toileting needs.
- Emotional support, for example, listening, calming, being present.
- Household management, for example, paying bills, managing finances, collecting benefits.
- Looking after siblings, for example, putting to bed, walking to school, parenting.
- Interpretation, for example, for hearing/speech impairment or English as an additional language.
- Administering medication, for example, insulin needles, preparing daily tablets.

How do we support Young Carers?

Our School:

- Will have members of staff with responsibility for young carers. These staff members will let pupils know who they are and what they can do to help.
- Can put young carers in touch with the local Young Carers Service and make referrals to this service where necessary. We can also put families in touch with other support services.
- Is accessible to parents who have mobility and communication difficulties and involves them in parents' evenings.
- Respects everyone's right to privacy and will only share information about Young Carers and their families with consent, and with professionals and agencies who need to know in order to offer support.
- Will consider alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities due to their caring role or is unable to complete homework or meet deadlines set in school.
- Will allow young carers to use a phone to call home during breaks and lunchtimes to reduce the worry that they may have about a family member.
- Will identify children who have caring responsibilities during the enrolment process to actively monitor attendance and attainment.

Members of staff to contact for support and/or referrals:

Tracy Tooth – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Family Support Officer

Deb Kendrick – Deputy Safeguarding Officer

Legislation and Guidance

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Articles 28 and 29.

Equality Act 2010

Children and Families Act 2014