



City Academy Whitehawk

Young Carers Policy 2019/20

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| Created : October 2019 |
| Owner : S. Singh Welfare Manager |
| Review : October 2020 |

At City Academy Whitehawk school we believe all children and young people have a right to an education, regardless of their situation at home. When a young person has a caring responsibility for someone in their family who has an illness, disability or substance misuse problem, he or she may need extra support to help him / her get the most out of school. Our Young Carers policy outlines how we will help any pupil who looks after someone at home.

Our School:

- Has a member of staff (Mrs Singh) with special responsibility for young carers, and informs all new pupils who the member of staff is and what they can do to help. They are known as Young Carers Link Worker.
- Will provide or seek appropriate training and information to staff members on how to identify young carers and signpost them to the relevant support.
- Has contact with the Schools Worker at the Young Carers Project and can refer to them for extra support (with the family and young person's permission).
- Will ensure children are aware about some of the difficulties faced by young carers and how both teachers and peers can help support them (during assemblies and/or PSHE lessons)
- Will provide a safe and confidential space for Peer Support Groups, allowing Young Carers in the school to receive emotional support and guidance to each other regarding their caring role.
- Can provide information on the Young Carers Project in Brighton and Hove.
- Will provide information on a support service for young carers on our website www.thecarerscentre.org.

- Will consider alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities such as detention, after school clubs and trips due to their caring role.
- Will send work home if the young carer is unable to attend school because of their caring commitment.
- Will allow young carers to telephone home during breaks and lunchtimes.
- Is accessible to parents who have mobility and communication difficulties and involves them in parents' evenings.
- Respects the young person's right to privacy and only shares information on them and their family with people who need to know. Their home situation and caring role will not be discussed in front of their peers.
- Treats young carers in a sensitive and child-centred way, upholding confidentiality. The young person's caring role is acknowledged and respected.
- Has information about young carers available at any prospective parents evenings or open days, and asks about caring responsibilities during the enrolment process.
- Includes young carers in any existing transition package so that relevant support is highlighted to the young person.
- Will not make assumptions about people with disabilities or other health issues, or label young people and their parents.
- Safeguarding and welfare protocols and procedures will be applied where appropriate. Further information can be found in the school's Child Protection Policy September 2019.