



Date	Review Date	Designated Lead Young Carers	Nominated (SLT)
July 2025	July 2027	Vera Koehler-Lewis	Natasha Dulson

Young Carers Policy

Our school is committed to supporting Young Carers—children and young people under 18 who care for family members with disabilities, health issues, or other challenges. We respect their vital role and ensure they have full access to education and pastoral support to ease their emotional and practical burdens.

Aligned with Articles 28, 29, and 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, we believe every student should receive quality education, develop their potential, and have their voices heard. We work closely with external agencies to provide tailored support, recognising that Young Carers may experience tiredness, worry, or isolation.

Our goal is to create an inclusive environment where all students feel safe, valued, and supported, regardless of their circumstances. Supporting Young Carers is essential to our broader aim of raising standards and ensuring every student achieves their best.

We aim to achieve at least a 'good' rating in all school inspections by ensuring that standards for all students are higher than those of similar-sized schools and continue to improve faster than the national trend. We believe that providing appropriate support for Young Carers is crucial to achieving this aim.

We believe this policy should be a working document that is fit for purpose, represents the school's ethos, enables consistency and quality across the school and is related to the following legislation:

- Children Act 1989
- Education Act 1996
- Standards and Framework Act 1998
- Children Act 2004
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Education Act 2011
- Education & Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Articles 28 and 29
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (Detained Persons) Regulations 2015

The following documentation is also related to this policy:

- [Equality Act 2010: Advice for Schools \(DfE\)](#)
- [Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges \(DfE\)](#)
- [Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 to 25 Years. Statutory Guidance for Organisations Who Work with and Support Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(DfE\)](#)
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children: A Guide to Inter-agency Working to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children](#)
- [Supporting Young Carers in Schools: A Step-by-step Guide for Leaders, Teachers, and Non-teaching Staff](#)
- [Young Carers Programme](#)

We recognise that:

- The true number of Young Carers in England is unknown, but estimates suggest up to 800,000 aged 11 to 16.
- Many Young Carers may lack support because they are not identified by local authorities.
- Local authorities have a duty to identify, assess, and support children with caring responsibilities.
- Since January 2023, schools are required to identify Young Carers in the annual school census.

- Young Carers often juggle school and home duties, but support from teachers can make a significant difference in helping them feel understood and able to prioritise.

Clear roles and responsibilities are essential for effective support. Explicitly defining each person's duties ensures proper implementation and accountability, which is vital for the success of this policy.

Aims

- To provide comprehensive support to Young Carers, acknowledging the impact of their responsibilities.
- To recognise their contributions and ensure full access to education and pastoral care.
- To share effective strategies within our school and across the Trust.
- To strictly comply with relevant legislation.
- To collaborate with other schools and authorities to improve this policy through shared best practices.

Responsibility for the Policy and Procedure

Role of the Headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Ensure all school staff are aware of the role of the designated school staff with responsibility for supporting Young Carers.
- The headteacher will delegate the responsibility to a Young Carers' coordinator to ensure policy is followed and delivered throughout the school community.
- Ask parents to inform the school if their child(ren) is/are acting as a Young Carer.
- Work hard to secure additional funding to support Young Carers.
- Acknowledge and respect the role of Young Carers.
- Ensure all school staff treat Young Carers in a sensitive manner.
- Monitor the effectiveness of this policy by:
 - monitoring learning and teaching through observing lessons.
 - monitoring planning and assessment.
 - speaking with students, school staff and parents.

Role of the Designated Young Carers Lead

The Designated Young Carers Lead will:

- Collaborate with senior leadership to develop, review, and lead the school's policy on Young Carers, using research and data to inform practice.
- Raise awareness among staff, students, and families about Young Carers, ensuring understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- Identify, support, and protect Young Carers through effective systems, including assessing their needs, ensuring equal access to education, and maintaining confidentiality.
- Work with external agencies, with family consent, to provide comprehensive support and share relevant information during student transitions.
- Lead on developing individual plans for Young Carers, monitoring their progress, and reviewing the impact on attainment, attendance, and well-being.
- Provide guidance, training, and support to staff to recognise signs of caring responsibilities, such as signs of stress, absenteeism, or disengagement.
- Ensure safeguarding procedures are followed if a Young Carer may be at risk from excessive caring demands.
- Acknowledge Young Carers in school documentation and celebrate their contributions, fostering an inclusive environment.
- Regularly review and evaluate the policy's effectiveness, including conducting risk assessments and sharing good practices across the school.

- Lead initiatives to ensure Young Carers can participate fully in the curriculum and extracurricular activities, and facilitate appropriate induction and ongoing staff training.
- Maintain open communication with parents and involve Young Carers in discussions about their needs, progress, and support.

Role of School Staff

School staff will:

- Follow this policy and be aware of linked policies, promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion.
- Ensure curriculum accessibility and provide flexibility with deadlines for Young Carers.
- Monitor student progress through data analysis and keep parents informed.
- Exercise sensitivity, uphold confidentiality, and conduct private conversations.
- Be understanding of lateness and support academic success.
- Address discriminatory incidents and uphold high ethical standards and British values.
- Foster strong parent-school partnerships and create a supportive, inclusive environment.

Role of Young Carers

Young Carers will:

- Be informed about the designated support person(s).
- Be encouraged to reach out to them for support.
- Negotiate homework deadlines when necessary.
- Be encouraged to participate in after-school clubs.
- Be made aware of the local Young Carers service.

Role of Students

Students will learn about the roles and responsibilities of Young Carers as part of the curriculum.

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers will:

- Be aware of and adhere to this policy.
- Collaborate with the school.
- Consider notifying the school if their child(ren) is a Young Carer.
- Follow this policy for the benefit of their children.
- Be invited to participate in periodic surveys conducted by the school.
- Support the school's Code of Conduct and guidance to ensure smooth operations.

Raising Awareness of this Policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

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| ▪ School handbook/prospectus. | ▪ Email. |
| ▪ School website. | ▪ Meetings with parents |
| ▪ Staff handbook. | ▪ School events. |
| ▪ Meetings with school staff. | |

Training

We ensure:

- All staff receive relevant training on this policy, safeguarding, child protection, behaviour, pastoral care, SEND, attendance, truancy, equal opportunities, and inclusion.
- Training is accurate, engaging, and well-delivered to improve understanding and outcomes.
- Staff understanding is evidenced through brief multiple-choice assessments via tools like Microsoft Forms, Kahoot, or SurveyMonkey.

- We maintain records showing staff's initial knowledge gaps and how these were addressed through training.

Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, prioritising their safety at all times. We foster a vigilant culture to act in the best interests of every child.

We believe every child has the right to be safe and have a duty to ensure strong safeguarding arrangements through positive teaching, pastoral support, staff training, and working closely with parents. We teach children about safeguarding and encourage awareness.

We continuously monitor our practices for potential risks and ensure students feel safe. We seek their feedback on safeguarding, and use this evidence to improve our procedures.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010, we have a duty not to discriminate against people based on their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

Monitoring the Implementation and Effectiveness of the Policy

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed biannually or when the need arises by the SLT and the Designated Lead for Young Carers.

Linked Policies

- Accessibility Policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Bereavement Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- SEND Policy

Headteacher: C Granville

Date: 14th July 2025

Review Date: July 2027