

BY BROOK VALLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Young Carers policy



Last Review Date: September 2022

Ratified By Governors Date: 17 November 2022

Next Review Date: September 2024

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Part 1: EIA Screening

Policies, Procedures or Practices	Young Carers Policy	Date	September 2022
EIA CARRIED OUT BY:		EIA APPROVED BY:	

Groups that may be affected:

Are there any concerns that the policy could have a different impact on any of the following groups? (please tick the relevant boxes)	Existing or potential adverse impact	Existing or potential for positive impact
Age (young people, the elderly: issues surrounding protection and welfare, recruitment, training, pay, promotion)	A young carer will take on additional responsibilities that are not appropriate to their age and development.	
Disability (physical and mental disability, learning difficulties; issues surrounding access to buildings, curriculum and communication).	The young carer could have additional learning or communication needs.	
Gender Reassignment (transsexual)		
Marriage and civil partnership		
Pregnancy and maternity		
Racial Groups (consider: language, culture, ethnicity including gypsy/traveller groups and asylum seekers)	Potential cultural expectations	
Religion or belief (practices of worship, religious or cultural observance, including non-belief)		
Gender (male, female)	Potential additional responsibility on females	
Sexual orientation (gay, lesbian, bisexual; actual or perceived)		

Any adverse impacts are explored in a Full Impact Assessment

By Brook Valley C of E VC Primary School

Young Carers Policy

Date: September 2022

Review Date: September 2024

Our Vision: Roots to grow, wings to fly

"They will soar on wings like eagles." Isaiah 40:31

At By Brook Valley we are committed to creating a positive, safe and caring Christian environment, where all members of the school and wider community will be respected and valued. We support one another to put down strong roots within our distinctively Christian culture, growing from our core values of hope, honesty, forgiveness and friendship. In this way, we will each be the very best we can be. This policy should be read and understood from this perspective.

Introduction:

By Brook Valley CE Primary School is committed to supporting young carers to access education. This policy aims to ensure young carers at By Brook Valley CE Primary School are identified and offered appropriate support to access the education to which they are entitled.

Definition:

A young carer is a child or young person who is helping to look after someone at home. Most are caring for a parent, commonly in a single parent family, but some may be taking responsibility for a sibling, grandparent or other relative. In some instances, a young carer may care for more than one family member. The person they look after will have one or more of:

- Physical disability (including sensory disability)
- Learning disability
- Mental health problem
- Chronic illness
- Substance misuse problem

Caring Tasks:

A young carer will take on additional responsibilities to those appropriate to their age and development. A young carer might be providing the main care or share responsibilities with another family member. The caring tasks that a young carer has to deal with can range from:

Nursing care - giving medication, injections, changing dressings, assisting with mobility etc.

Personal intimate care - washing, dressing, feeding and helping with toilet requirements.

Emotional care - being compliant, monitoring the emotional state of the person cared for, listening, being a shoulder to cry on, supporting a parent through depression and trying to cheer them up.

Domestic care - doing a substantial amount of housework, cooking, shopping, cleaning, laundry etc.

Financial care - running the household, bill paying, benefit collection etc.

Child care - taking responsibility for younger siblings in addition to their other caring responsibilities.

Possible impact on Education

By Brook Valley CE Primary School acknowledges that there are likely to be young carers among its pupils, and that being a young carer can have an adverse effect on a young person's education.

Because of their responsibilities at home, a young carer might experience:

- Being late or absent due to responsibilities at home

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- Concentration problems, anxiety or worry in school
- Emotional distress
- Tiredness in school
- Lack of time for homework
- Poor attainment
- Physical problems such as back pain from lifting
- False signs of maturity, because of assuming adult roles
- Behavioural problems (taking out their anger or frustration)
- Lack of time for extra-curricular activities
- Isolation, embarrassed to take friends home
- Limited social skills
- Bullying
- Feeling that no one understands and that no support is available
- Low self-esteem
-

It also might be difficult to engage their parents (due to fears about child being taken into care, fears about their condition being misunderstood or their parenting skills being called into question). They may be unable to attend parents' evenings.

Support Offered:

By Brook Valley CE Primary School acknowledges that young carers may need extra support to ensure they have equal access to education. Through this policy, we want to give the message that young carers' education is important.

The Young Carer Lead will be the SENDco and Inclusion Manager. They will be appointed and they will be the main contact for the Young Carers in the school. The Young Carers Lead will meet with the Young Carers on a regular basis and will liaise with the teacher responsible for Vulnerable Groups.

The Young Carer Lead will liaise with relevant colleagues and agencies with the consent of the Young Carer and parent.

By Brook Valley CE Primary School will:

- Provide young carers with opportunities to speak to someone in private and will not discuss their situation in front of their peers.
- Appreciate that young carers will not discuss their family situation unless they feel comfortable. The young person's caring role will be acknowledged and respected.
- Treat young carers in a sensitive and child-centred way, upholding confidentiality.
- Ensure young carers can access all available support services in school.
- Follow child protection procedures regarding any young carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring.
- Promote discussion and learning in all areas of the curriculum to facilitate fuller understanding, acceptance of and respect for, the issues surrounding illness, disability and caring.
- Provide staff access to information and training to enable them to recognize indications that a child has a caring responsibility.
- -Refer the child to Wiltshire Young Carers for additional support if this is appropriate.
 - Identify Young Carers as a vulnerable group and log status on SIMS.
 - Discuss Young Carers as a vulnerable group at SLT meetings

In addition, By Brook Valley CE Primary School will recognise flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers. Available provision includes (but is not limited to):

- Access to a telephone during breaks and lunchtime, to phone home.
- Negotiable deadlines for home learning (when needed).
- Arrangements for remote learning (when there is a genuine crisis). Any approved absence for a young carer will be time limited.
- Access for parents with impaired mobility.
- Alternative communication options for parents who are sensory impaired or housebound.
- Advice to parents if there are difficulties in transporting a young carer to school.

Further Information:

Further information can be found at: <https://carersupportwiltshire.co.uk/young-carers/>

Carer Support Wiltshire

Independent Living Centre, St George's Road Semington, nr. Trowbridge Wiltshire BA14 6JQ

Tel: 01380 871690

Email: admin@carersupportwiltshire.co.uk

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