

## 11 How your school supports young carers: a template

This has been developed with the view that schools will tailor the information to fit their own school and the support put into place for young carers and their families.

This model text is suitable for use in your school literature, on your notice boards, intranet or website.

### Young Carers: A school statement for pupils and families

At [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] we are aware that pupils in our school may well have caring roles at home.

We believe that all children and young people should have equal access to education, regardless of what is happening at home and that no child should have to take on inappropriate or excessive caring responsibilities.

When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability, mental ill-health or substance misuse problem, they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school.

We aim to understand the issues faced by young carers. Our policy for young carers states how we will support any pupil who helps to look after someone at home.

We aim to support young carers through a whole school approach and through working with other agencies and professionals, with the understanding that support for the whole family is in the best interests of the young carer.

### For Pupils

This is how [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] can support you if you help to care for someone at home.

We have a member of staff [INSERT NAME] who has special responsibility for young carers. They will let all new pupils know who they are and what they can do to help.

We can provide you with confidential support and advice in school.

We can issue you with a young carers card which will flag up to staff that you have caring responsibilities at home so you do not have to keep explaining your situation at home.

We work closely with the local young carers' service and can put you in touch with them and other support services. We can also put your family in touch with services who will be able to help you all.

We will respect your right to privacy as a young carer and will only share information about you and your family with people who need to know so that they can help you.

If you are unable to attend out of school activities, such as sports coaching or concerts, due to your caring role, then we will consider alternatives. Please speak to us if this is an issue. Additionally, after-school detentions will be enforced at lunchtimes.

We will allow young carers to telephone home during breaks and lunchtimes if necessary.

We also cover the challenges faced by young carers in PSE/ health and wellbeing lessons.

#### For Parents

This is how [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] can support you if you or another family member has a serious illness, disability, mental ill-health or substance misuse problem which has an impact on your child's education.

[INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is accessible to parents who have mobility and communication needs.

If your child is unable to attend out of school activities, such as sports coaching or concerts, then we will consider alternatives. Please speak to us if this is an issue. Additionally, after-school detentions will be enforced at lunchtimes.

Please come and speak to us if you have difficulties attending school events, such as parents' evenings, sports days or concerts, or if you have specific difficulties with supporting your child with their education.