



# YOUNG CARER'S POLICY

Review Date	Reviewer	Approved by	Adopted	Implementation
September 2018	S Heseltine		September 2018	September 2018
Summer Term 2021	S Heseltine	Head of School	September 2021	September 2021
September 2023	S Heseltine	Head of School	July 2023	September 2023
September 2025				



## Revision History

Issue No	Date	Description
2	September 2021	No changes.
3	September 2023	No changes.

At The Academy at Shotton Hall we believe that all children and young people have the right to learn, enjoy and achieve, regardless of what is happening at home.

We have developed our Young Carers Policy to show how we will support any pupil who helps to look after someone at home and to demonstrate how we will try to relieve some of the worries which young carers have about home and their school work.

### **Defining a Young Carer:**

A young person under 18 years of age who helps to look after a family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill or has a substance misuse problem.

Caring can involve physical or emotional care or being responsible for someone's safety and wellbeing. The level of responsibility assumed by a young carer is often inappropriate to their age and beyond the level of simply helping out at home as part of the process of growing up.

Our Young Carer's Policy was developed with help from the Young carers group and members of the teaching staff.

The Academy at Shotton Hall acknowledges that there are likely to be young carers among its pupils, and that being a young carer can have an adverse effect on their education.

Young carer's might experience:

- Being late or absent because of responsibilities at home
- Concentration problems, anxiety or worry in school
- Emotional distress
- Tiredness in school
- Lack of time for homework
- Poor attainment
- Becoming angry or frustrated
- Isolation – feeling no-one understands
- Bullying
- Low self esteem

We will

- Have a designated member of staff with special responsibility for young carers.
- Let all pupils know who the designated member of staff is
- Put young carers in touch with the local Young Carers Service.

Issue No:	3	Quality Document Type:	Policy
Date Reviewed:	04/09/23	Ref:	TASH/PASTORAL/YOUNGCARERS
Approved by HoS:	05/09/23	Originator of this document is:	J Barker

- Run PSHE lessons on the challenges faced by young carers
- Respect the right to privacy and only share information with people who need to know in order to help a young carer
- Follow child protection procedures regarding any young carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring
- Allow young carers to telephone home during breaks and lunchtime via the Pastoral office
- Ensure that staff are aware of the warning signs which may indicate that a pupil is a young carer
- Be accessible to parents/carers who have mobility/communication difficulties and involve them in parents' evenings, etc.

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