



BUSBRIDGE CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Young Carers Policy

- **This policy was written in the Spring term 2020**
- **It will be reviewed as required**

School Vision: *To be a school that reflects the love of Christ: **cherishing** each other as unique individuals and **challenging** all to achieve and succeed.*

Young carers look after someone who has a long-term physical or mental health problem, disability or a problem with drugs or alcohol. This may take the form of domestic chores, personal care, supervision, emotional support or another form of assistance.

At Busbridge C of E (Aided) Junior School, we believe that all young people have the right to a full education. If a young person looks after someone, we know that they may need additional support to help them get the most out of the many opportunities in and out of school, and we aim to help meet their needs.

Our school:

- Has a designated member of staff who has special responsibility for young carers. Currently our designated lead is Rachel Barker, with our Young Carers champion being Nicola Howell-Din, our Home School Link worker.
- Is sensitive towards young carers' needs and aims to show discretion. We respect pupils' privacy and will only share information about their circumstances with people who need to know, in order to provide help and to ensure safety. Pupils and parents are consulted before information is shared.
- Expects pupils to attend registration and lessons on time, every school day. However, we provide reasonable flexibility on attendance if absence is due to providing emergency care. In the event of emergency care being required, absence may be allowed for a short while, and school work sent home, until the family can make alternative arrangements for care. Please speak to us if this becomes an issue.
- Has links with local services providing support to families with care needs, including local young carer services.
- Provides both individual listening support and a support group for young carers.
- Provides access to a telephone to enable you to call home during breaks, if required.
- Liaises with the local authority to provide assistance for disabled parents in getting their children to school.
- Ensures that the school and its communications are accessible for parents with disabilities and health conditions.
- Uses the Pupil Premium to assist eligible young carers in their education, including accessing curriculum-based trips
- Will consider alternatives if pupils are unable to attend after school activities (e.g. sports clubs) due to their caring role. Please speak to us if this is an issue.
- Runs sessions on young carers in the PSHE programme for each year group, to help all pupils understand the issues, carers' rights and the support available, and create a 'carer-friendly' culture.