



CHANTRY ACADEMY

Young Carers in Schools

At Chantry Academy we believe that all children and young people have the right to learn and achieve. Our commitment is to support young carers and their needs enabling them equal access to aspire and achieve in learning regardless of the complexities of their personal needs and home circumstances.

Definition of a young carer

'If you are 9-15 years old and care for, or are affected by, a family member who has a physical or mental illness or who has a problem with the misuse of drugs or alcohol, you are a young carer.' (Suffolk Family Carers, 2017)

Definition of a young adult carer

'If you are aged between 16 to 24 years and provide care to a family member with a physical illness or disability, mental health or substance misuse problem, you are a young adult carer.' (Suffolk Family Carers, 2017)

At Chantry Academy we are aware that some of our pupils may be caring for family a member at home and may require support to help them attend and enjoy school in the same way as other pupils to achieve their potential.

We have the following practices and strategies in place to support young carers in our school:

- There is a designated Young Carers School Lead with responsibility for young carers and their families
 - The Young Carer's Operational Lead is: Mrs A Watson
 - The Young Carer's Senior Leadership Team Lead is: Mr K Greenwood
 - The Young Carer's Governor Lead is: Mr R Hinsley

- The school has adopted a whole school approach to supporting young carers and their families, and information will only be shared with professionals and agencies on a 'need to know' basis in order to support young carers and their families.

- Partnership working with local young carers services (Suffolk Family Carers) has been developed to embed ongoing training on young carers for our staff and Governors.

- Training on identifying and supporting young carers will be delivered by Suffolk Family Carers and every year to new staff.
- Information and signposting is available for pupils, staff and families to access regarding the identification of young carers and how to self-identify.
 - Identification of young carers during the enrolment process is in place to actively monitor attendance and attainment and appropriate action will be taken to support young carers and their families where attendance and attainment drops below the expected level.
 - Support for young carers and their family during the transition process is available to share agreed information with their new school/ college about their caring role.
 - The School will look to consider alternative arrangements if a young carer cannot attend after school activities. The school will also consider lunchtime detentions rather than after school detentions.
- Where possible, the School will support with appropriate and flexible support with coursework, learning and deadlines.
 - The School will allow young carers to use a phone to call home during breaks and lunchtimes to reduce the worry that they may have about a family member.
 - Pupil premium funding will be used where possible to minimise any barriers to education and learning experienced by eligible young carers.
 - An effective referral system and strong partnership with relevant external agencies is in place and with the school nurse and local young carers service.
 - Young Carers statement to be reviewed annually.

We work closely with Suffolk Young Carers and more can be found about them by clicking on this link <http://www.suffolkfamilycarers.org/young-carers.html>

Signed:

Name:

Date: 15/7/17

Date of next review: July, 2018