



# Arnold Primary School

## Young Carers Policy

### February 2025

Name of school:	Arnold View Primary School
Policy adopted on:	10.02.25
Date of next review:	10.02.27
The name of the Governing body committee that will review and monitor the impact of the Policy/Guidance/Toolkit and content annually with the head teacher	Finance and Personnel Committee
Locations this policy can be accessed:	Governor Hub Z drive for staff access AVPS website

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## Statement of intent

At [Arnold View Primary School](#), we aim to provide a community for pupils which keeps them safe, supports their creativity and enables them to meet their full potential.

The school is committed to supporting young carers' access to a full education. This policy will be implemented by all staff members in order to ensure young carers at our school are identified and offered appropriate support to access the education to which they are entitled.

## 1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to statutory legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Children Act 2004
- Education Act 2011
- Equality Act 2010
- Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004
- Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Care Act 2014
- The Young Carers (Needs Assessments) Regulations 2015
- DfE (2011) 'Improving support for young carers – family focused approaches'
- DfE (2016) 'The lives of young carers in England'

## 2. Definition

2.1. A young carer is aged 5-18 years old who provides regular and ongoing care to a family member who is physically or mentally ill, has a disability, or misuses substances.

2.2. A young carer will take on additional responsibilities to those appropriate to their age and development.

2.3. Young carers may be primary carers, such as caring for a parent, or a secondary carer, such as helping to care for a sibling.

- 2.4. A young carer becomes vulnerable when the level of care-giving and responsibility to the person in need of care becomes excessive or inappropriate for that child and risks jeopardising their emotional or physical wellbeing, educational achievement and life chances.

### **3. Issues faced by young carers**

- 3.1. Caring responsibilities can impact on young people's education in a number of different ways including, but not limited to, the following:
- Lateness
  - Tiredness
  - Non-attendance
  - Late or no submission of homework and assignments
  - Not participating in extra-curricular activities and school events
  - Experiencing bullying or isolation
  - Underachieving academically
  - Poor education or career choices
- 3.2. Young carers may exhibit challenging behaviour in environments away from home.
- 3.3. Many young carers may be unable to develop friendships outside of school , restricting the development of a pupil's social skills.
- 3.4. Some young carers carry out tasks for which they are physically ill equipped, which can impact on their overall health. Long-term caring responsibilities can also impact significantly on the mental health of young people, which like their physical health, can lead to poor attendance.
- 3.5. Financial support maybe available in line with Pupil Premium assessment

### **4. Identifying young carers**

- 4.1 During the school enrolment process for year 6 students and in year transfers, the school will
- Clarify whether the pupil has caring responsibilities
  - Identify whether the young carer has any additional needs that need to be supported, e.g. any ARNA, SEND or social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs.
- 4.2. Where appropriate, a young carer may be referred to the LA or other support agencies for a needs assessment.
- 4.3. The Young carer lead will update information on Sims regularly to staff, filtering to Class charts where young carer information is accessible to all staff. Regular updates will be shared when necessary to all staff during Inset or briefings.

## **5. Young carers and the school**

- 5.1. The young carer lead is the main point of contact for young carers in the school. This appointed person is responsible for:
  - Ensuring that young carers have the same access to a full education and career choices as their peers.
  - Promoting and coordinating the support young carers need.
  - Liaising with other agencies as appropriate, including adult services.
- 5.2. It is important that staff members can effectively identify young carers and that young carers feel that they can ask for help
- 5.3. In order to ensure that the young Carer Lead understand the issues faced by young carers, CPD training and ongoing professional development about the matter is provided for staff.
- 5.4. The school aims to create a welcoming and friendly environment for all pupils, in which young carers feel comfortable to discuss their situation.
- 5.5. The school will signpost information, ensuring that all pupils are aware of this information.
- 5.6. Tutor time, assemblies and where relevant the curriculum will be used to promote a full understanding, acceptance of, and respect for, issues such as the work of young carers.
- 5.7. Staff members will not discuss a young carer's personal situation and related arrangements in front of their peers.
- 5.8. The school will follow safeguarding procedures and child protection procedures regarding any pupil who they believe to be at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring.

## **6. Providing support**

- 6.1. The young carer lead will meet with young carers on a regular basis and will liaise with teachers regarding difficulties, attendance and deadlines.
- 6.2. The young carer lead will ensure that existing individual pupil plans recognise the pupil's specific needs as a young carer. Signpost where necessary to outside agencies.
- 6.3. Young carers where supported maybe at a reasonable time have access to a telephone, allowing them to call home with the intention of reducing any worry they may have about a family member, or facilities will be put in place to meet the needs of the young carers.

6.5. Where appropriate on a case by case basis young carers will be supported with certain aspects of behaviour and education such as homework/assignment deadlines, setting lunchtime detentions instead of after-school detentions.

## **7. Monitoring and review**

7.1. The Young carer Line Manager and the young carer lead will continually monitor and review practice to ensure this policy is implemented correctly.

7.2. Staff will all be aware of other relevant school policies which will be implemented alongside this policy.