



KING JAMES I ACADEMY

Young Carers Policy

Date adopted by Governors: September 2018

Date of Next Review: September 2019

Young Carers Policy

1. Defining a Young Carer

- 1.1 A Young Carer is someone under 18 years of age who helps to look after a family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill or has a substance abuse problem. Caring can involve physical or emotional care, or being responsible for someone's safety and wellbeing. The level of responsibility taken on by a young carer is often inappropriate for someone of their age and is more than simply helping out at home.

2. Aim

- 2.1 At King James I Academy, we believe that all children and young people have the right to learn, enjoy and achieve; regardless of their background or home circumstances. Our Young Carers Policy shows how we will support any student who is identified as a Young Carer, whether long or short term. We will do all we can to support the young person in school and help alleviate some of the stresses that come with their caring role.

3. What we will do?

- 3.1 King James I Academy will:

- Have a designated member of staff with a responsibility for Young Carers.
- Ensure that all students and staff are aware who the designated person is and how to contact them.
- Continue to raise awareness about Young Carers and the challenges they face, using assemblies, notice boards and the Student Portal.
- Make sure that all identified Young Carers are offered support and given details of outside agencies that may be able to offer additional support and advice. Help the Young Carer contact these agencies if required.
- Use staff briefings and the DLG regularly to remind staff to be vigilant to warning signs which may indicate that a student is also a Young Carer
- Ensure that staff are sensitive to the needs and privacy of a Young Carer; they may not want their peers to know about their circumstances.

- Only share information with those who need to know, preferably with the consent of the Young Carer.
- If requested and feasible allow the Young Carer to go home at break and lunchtime.
- To support the Young Carer and their family consider alternatives to after school detentions if sanctions are needed.
- Offer Young Carers access to a support group in school.
- Try to be aware of the needs of, and be accessible to all parents and carers, taking into account mobility and communication difficulties.
- Encourage Young Carers and their families to take part in school events such as parent's evenings and end of term shows.
- Provide a Young Carer with a Time-Out Card if needed, enabling them to go to their Key Worker.