

Dear parent(s)/guardian(s),

## Identifying and supporting young carers at **Blackwood Comprehensive School**

At **Blackwood Comprehensive School** we are aware that some of our pupils are young carers. A young carer is someone under 18 who is caring, unpaid, for a family member or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or addiction problems. They often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. Research suggests there are at least 800,000 young carers in the UK but many do not realise they are a young carer.

We know that young carers may need a little extra support to enjoy and do well at school. At **Blackwood Comprehensive School** we are committed to ensuring that all pupils who are young carers are identified, and supported effectively.

As the Young Carers' Lead, Mrs Griffiths, Mrs Ridout and Mrs Pitt we have a responsibility for ensuring all young carers are able to enjoy school and make good progress. If you think your child might be a young carer, or could be affected by any of the issues we've highlighted, please let us know by filling in the form below and bringing it into school in a sealed envelope addressed to either member of staff highlighted above. If you do not feel comfortable doing this, or have any further questions, please contact me on [BLCKA@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:BLCKA@caerphilly.gov.uk) or speak to us directly.

Any information that is given to us will be treated sensitively and no information will be shared without your knowledge.

Yours sincerely,  
**Mrs Griffiths**

## Reply slip

Pupil's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the pupil have parents or other family members who have a long-term illness or disability, or who are affected by mental ill-health or substance misuse?

Yes      No

If you wish, you can give further details here: (not required)

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Would you like more information about the types of support the school provides to young carers?

Yes      No

### **Name any current support the school may offer**

Barnardos provide support for young carers in Caerphilly, here is a link to what they can offer and the contact details:

[www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/helping-families/young-carers](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/helping-families/young-carers)

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Services-for-adults-and-older-people/Caring-for-someone/Young-carers>

01633 612712 / 01633 615859

caerservices@barnardos.org.uk

Carers of all ages are entitled to an assessment of need via the Local Authority, please see the link below;

<https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Services-for-adults-and-older-people/Caring-for-someone/Carers-assessments>

Please provide a name and telephone number or email address so that we can contact you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/email address: \_\_\_\_\_