Marden High School

Young Carers Policy

Ratified by Governors- October 2026
To be Reviewed: October 2028

Introduction:

It is the aim of Marden High School that every student achieves their full potential. All students, including those with medical needs, are encouraged to access all learning opportunities through excellent attendance levels. For some students who are Young Carers, this may mean that extra support should be provided.

Background

Young carers are children and young people under 18 years old who provide unpaid regular care to a relative who is physically or mentally ill, disabled or misuses drugs and/or alcohol. There are around 700,000 young carers in the UK (BBC 2010). That equates to approximately 1 in 12 secondary aged pupils and there are likely to be at least 2 young carers in every classroom

What might a young carer do?

- Practical tasks
- Physical care
- Emotional support
- Personal care
- Managing finances
- Collecting prescriptions
- Giving medication
- Assisting someone to communicate
- Looking after brothers and sisters

What difficulties might Young Carers have in school?

- Some Young carers tell us that it's a struggle to juggle their education and caring, which causes them stress
- Some may feel reluctant to tell an adult in school
- Some young people might feel they have to miss school because of their caring role

How we support Young Carers at Marden High School :

- Mrs Reece is the member of staff with special responsibility for Young Carers.
- We have Young Carers Champions in school (Miss Scott and Mrs Howells) who work directly with Young Carers to offer a bespoke support package where appropriate
- We can refer Young Carers to North Tyneside Young Carers Service or other supportive services.
- Staff receive training on how best to identify and support Young Carers
- We are accessible to parents who have mobility and communication difficulties
- We respect the right to privacy of our Young Carers and will only share information about them and their family with people who need to know to help them.
- We will consider alternatives if a Young Carer is unable to attend out of school activities e.g detention, sports coaching, concerts, due to their caring role.

Visit www.NTyoungcarers.org

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