

# YOUNG CARERS POLICY

Our school recognises that young carers are children or young people who look after, or help to look after, someone in their family who has a long term illness, disability, mental health difficulties or struggle with substance misuse. We know that every young carer's experience is unique to them and their personal circumstances.



We are committed to ensuring that young carers are children first and that they have equal access to education, removing the barriers they may face to attendance and attainment. This charter aims to ensure young carers are identified at the earliest possible opportunity and offered appropriate support, both within the school environment and from our partners in the community.

## To achieve this, we will endeavour to work with the Supporting Young Carers in Schools Guidelines to:

Create an environment that is sensitive, empathetic, and flexible to the needs of young carers and respects their right to confidentiality



Ensure all school staff are "Young Carer Aware" and access regular CPD to develop their knowledge and understanding of best practice to support young carers



Develop an awareness and understanding of the impacts of caring and the support needs of young carers throughout the school community

Record all identified young carers on SEEMIS

Appoint a "Young Carer Co-ordinator" or team of YCC within our school who will have responsibility for young carers and endeavour to ensure all staff, pupils and parents in our school community are aware of who this person or team is



Display a young carer noticeboard and include posters, leaflets, and guidance materials



Ensure staff have access to a shared drive with further information

Run regular awareness-raising assemblies and workshops on young carers for pupils

Liaise with and make referrals to our local young carers service, as appropriate

Ensure all identified young carers are aware of and have access to an enhanced transition package, including (where possible) a visit to their new school and an introduction to that school's YCC.



Offer all identified young carers a Young Carers Statement (either in school, or through your local young carers organisation)

Help young carers to participate in all aspects of school life, and ensure the views of young carers are considered in the planning process



Headteacher ..... Date :
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Young Carer Coordinator ..... Date :
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Edinburgh Young Carers ..... Date :
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This policy will be reviewed every ..... months by the Young Carer Coordinator, staff and children

