William Cobbett Primary School

Young Carers Policy

Autumn 2026
Review: Autumn 2029

Young carers look after someone who has a long-term physical or mental health problem, disability or a problem with drugs or alcohol. This may take the form of domestic chores, personal care, supervision, emotional support or another form of assistance.

At William Cobbett Primary School we believe that all young people have the right to an education. If a young person looks after someone, we know that they may need additional support to help them get the most out of their education, and we aim to meet their needs.

Our school:

- Has a designated member of staff who has special responsibility for young carers. Currently our designated lead is Sue Marsh HSLW/DDSL
- Is sensitive towards young carers' needs and aims to show discretion. We respect pupils' privacy and will only share information about their circumstances with people who need to know, in order to provide help and to ensure safety. Pupils and parents are consulted before information is shared.
- Expects pupils to attend registration and lessons on time, every school day. However, we provide reasonable flexibility on attendance if absence is due to providing emergency care. In the event of emergency care being required, absence may be allowed for a short while, and school work sent home, until alternative arrangements for care can be made by the family. Please speak to us if this becomes an issue.
- Has links with local services providing support to families with care needs, including local young carer services.
- Provides both individual listening support and a twice termly support group for young carers.
- Provides access to a telephone to enable you to call home during breaks, if required.
- Liaises with the local authority to provide assistance for disabled parents in getting their children to school.
- Ensures that the school and its communications are accessible for parents with disabilities and health conditions.
- Uses the Pupil Premium to assist eligible young carers in their education, including accessing curriculum-based trips
- Will consider alternatives if pupils are unable to attend after school activities (e.g. sports clubs) due to their caring role. Please speak to us if this is an issue.
- Will enforce detentions during the lunchbreaks if pupils have caring responsibilities after school.
- Runs sessions on young carers in the PSHE programme for each year group, to help all pupils understand the issues, carers' rights and the support available, and create a 'carer-friendly' culture.

If a family is affected by any of the issues mentioned in this policy, and you and your son/daughter would like support, please contact Sue hslw@william-cobbett.surrey.sch.uk 07495 034004. If no help is required just at this time, the school would still appreciate your sharing of any circumstances that may have an impact upon your child's education as they progress through the school. This will allow us to be aware and offer support as required. Anything you do tell us will be treated sensitively and will not be shared without your knowledge.