



Young Carers Policy

Date: January 2026

Review date: January 2027

Approved by the Advisory Board: February 2026

Linked to policies:

- Safeguarding including Child Protection policy
- Wellbeing Policy
- Data Protection policy

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Day'.

Version Control

Version	Date of review/change(s)	Page and paragraphs affected	Summary of update
New policy	January 2026		

Introduction

All students at All Saints School have the right to attend school full time and have full access to their education and extra-curricular activities, regardless of context. This can be difficult for a student to achieve if they have additional responsibilities at home, this policy exists to recognise, identify, and champion those who are identified as being a Young Carer.

Definition of a Young Carer

A young carer is a student under 18 years of age who helps to look after a family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill (including PTSD) or has a substance misuse problem.

At All Saints School, we recognise that caring can involve physical or emotional care. The level of responsibility assumed by a young carer is often inappropriate to their age and at a level beyond simply helping with jobs at home, which is a normal part of growing up; as such it may impact on the education of the young person.

Through the work of the whole staff team, students are:

- Appropriately identified as a vulnerable group on the school MIS
- Offered appropriate support and guidance in school
- Monitored closely for their progress
- Signposted to support and access to age-appropriate activities and events
- Recognised and celebrated for their achievements
- Able to retain privacy as a *young carer* if they wish

Identifying a Young Carer

It is important to identify and recognise young carers. Unless the school is advised about a student's home circumstances, young carers risk first being identified by negative aspects of their behaviour or work and are vulnerable to under achievement.

Some indicators that a student has a caring role are:

- Regular lateness or unauthorised absence, possibly increasing periodically
- Tiredness during the school day
- Erratic responses to homework with incomplete, late, or work not being presented
- Lack of concentration, anxiety or worry
- Under-achievement for potential capability
- Behavioural needs, especially inappropriate responses possibly resulting from anger or frustration
- Fewer peer friendships than expected but good relationship with adults and appearing mature for their age
- Being the victim of bullying, perhaps linked to a family member's disability or state of health, e.g., substance misuse problem, lack of hygiene, physical appearance etc.
- Lack of interest in extra-curricular activities, especially after the school day
- Apparent parental disinterest, e.g., non-attendance at progress or information evenings, delays in responding to phone calls/letters, etc.
- Some young carers worry about appearing different to their peers, bullying or interference in their family life and may seek to conceal their role from their peers and from teachers.

Working with other providers

During transitions to other provisions or post 16 provision, students who are young carers will be identified to ensure continuing support is in place for them.

Working with the Local Authority

Young carers might meet the definition of a 'child in need' under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 and are entitled to an assessment from Children's Services. In the event of any young carers being at risk of significant harm the school's safeguarding policy will be followed.

Additional support for Young Carers at All Saints School

If we believe that a student is likely to be a Young Carer, we will be sensitive when approaching them and their family about this, as we acknowledge that it may not be something they wish to disclose. When a student is identified the following support is available.

- Every Young Carer will be assigned to a member of staff, who will complete the 'who am I' profile with them, that can be shared with their teachers.
- A visual display which offers informational leaflets and posters for potential Young Carers.
- The school will raise the profile of young carers through assemblies, tutor activities and appropriate Values Curriculum lessons.
- Liaison and reasonable adjustment for young carers who are unable to attend out of school activities e.g., detention, concerts, etc. due to their caring role.
- Consideration of communication with home at times of stress – e.g. the opportunity for young carers to telephone home during breaks and lunchtimes.
- Reasonable adjustment to accommodate parental liaison around progress and pastoral issues e.g. telephone consultation for parents' evening events, parking arrangements.
- Liaison with subject teachers to make reasonable adjustment at times of need around deadlines for homework.
- Space in school to complete homework.
- Sign posted to support from Carers Matter Norfolk and referrals for any trips away / financial support when appropriate.
- School counsellor.
- Attendance intervention, work support during absence.

Additional support for staff at All Saints School

Staff will be directed to complete awareness training either online or where appropriate, face-to-face CPD.

Leadership and Management

Oversight of Young Carers comes under the Headteacher. There will be a named Advisor, Mrs Kathleen Griffiths, with the responsibility for monitoring the school actions for Young Carers.

The Assessment and Reporting lead for academic progress will monitor the progress of young carer and intervene as necessary at key data analysis points.

The named lead for each individual student will monitor and support the student and their family, and ensure their own knowledge is up to date through accessing the CPD found on the Carers Trust website

External accreditation and Quality Assurance

All Saints School will work towards achieving the Young Carers in School Award to meet the needs of Young Carers.

Outcomes

Students

- For young carers, this policy will ensure they are supported in school and understood by staff.
- Access and equality of opportunity will be upheld.
- The publicising of young carers will raise awareness in the school community that other students in our school are young carers.

Staff

- Staff will be aware of the group of Young Carers in the school, and the students will be identified via Arbor.
- Staff will be aware of the difficulties faced by young carers, offering them extra intervention as well as reasonable adjustments for homework and detentions.

Parents

- The parents of Young Carers will receive regular information and will be offered reasonable adjustments to enable effective communication.
- They will know and identify the named lead and will be able to communicate via telephone and email if support is needed.
- Quality Assurance.
- The named leads will meet with the named advisor on a termly basis to review progress towards the school's award for Young Carers.
- The Headteacher will monitor young carers' attendance and behaviour in school in liaison with the Deputy Headteacher and the Assessment and Reporting Lead.