



# MARISH

## Academy Trust



# Young Carers Policy

March 2022

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## Policy

At Marish Academy Trust, we believe that all children and young people have the right to an education, regardless of their home or personal circumstances. Therefore, we have put in place this policy to ensure that the needs of those children, who may be young carers, are recognised and addressed through best practice. Legislation defines a “young carer” as ‘...a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person (of any age, except where that care is provided for payment, pursuant to a contract or as voluntary work).’

Young Carers are children and young people under 18 years old who provide regular and ongoing care to a family member who is physically or mentally ill, disabled, or misuses substances (ADAss, ADCS and the Children’s Society 2012).

Our Academy Trust schools will:

- Designate a member of staff to have special responsibility for Young Carers.
- Keep up to date with national and local developments and with legislation and guidance affecting Young Carers and their families.
- Make sure that pupils and staff are aware of who the designated teacher for Young Carers is and how they can access support
- Use the curriculum to promote a full understanding, acceptance of, and respect for, issues such as caring, disability and impairment, for example embedding the challenges faced by Young Carers into PSHE and assemblies (at least annually).
- Be sensitive towards Young Carers’ needs – they do not always want their peers to know their circumstances
- Ensure that information about support available for Young Carers and how to access it is clearly available to both pupils and families
- Pass information on to relevant colleagues, i.e. class teacher, school family link worker, learning mentor, with the consent of the Young Carer
- Liaise with appropriate agencies, e.g. Slough Crossroads, Social Care and ensure that, where a referral to social care is made, the child is identified as a Young Carer when appropriate and the Screening Tool is completed
- Look at alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities, e.g. sports coaching, concerts, due to their caring role. This will be discussed sensitively with the pupil and their Parents/Carers.

Reducing barriers to education and learning

- Ensure intervention is targeted and young carers are supported, are able to grow and enjoy life to the full. The school uses and evaluates data effectively to identify and monitor the progress made by Young Carers and reviews Young Carers plans accordingly.
- Where appropriate, the school negotiates deadlines, for example for homework or coursework.
- The school will consider how best to support those parents who find it difficult to escort younger children to school.
- The school meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

**Designated Member of Staff**

The designated person responsible for Young Carers Trustwide is Mrs Conlon, the Safeguarding and Child Protection Lead. She is supported in this role by the inclusion Team and ECM Teams in both Schools.

**Revision History**

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	April 2012	GD	
2.0	April 2014	GD	
3.0	April 2020	ED	
4.0	March 2022	ED	

**Approval History**

Version	Approved	Comments
1.0	May 2012	
2.0	April 2014	
3.0		

This policy is based on a sample young carers policy for schools, available from [www.youngcarers.net/professionals/119/123](http://www.youngcarers.net/professionals/119/123)