

Young Carer Statement

Introduction

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 Kings College, 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.

At King's College, our Young Carer Champions are Kate Palmer (Eikon Youth Support Worker) and Holly Bird (Home School Link Worker).

Who is a young carer?

Every school has pupils affected by disability and illness in the family. A 'young carer' is a young person who provides care to a member of the family or a friend who has one, or a combination, of the following conditions:

- a physical or learning disability
- a sensory impairment
- a chronic condition
- a terminal illness
- a mental health problem or illness
- a drug or alcohol addiction

A young carer may

- Provide help with practical tasks in the home, such as cleaning, cooking, shopping, laundry, managing finances and providing medical assistance
- Provide emotional support, such as comforting, listening and talking
- Provide personal support, such as assisting with dressing, washing and feeding
- Provide physical support, such as assisting their family member with movement, and helping with physical tasks, for example carrying heavy shopping bags.

Identifying young carers

Young carers at Kings are identified via the following ways:

- During enrolment process
- Parental contact
- Self-identification from pupils
- Staff awareness

Support offered

When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability or substance misuse problem, he or she may need a little extra support to help him or her get the most out of school. Our Young Carers statement explains how we will help any pupil who helps to look after someone at home.

Our school:

- Identifies members of staff with responsibility for young carers
- Provides young carers awareness-raising training for staff
- Provides both individual listening and group support for young carers
- Signposts young carers and their families to local young carers support services
- Is accessible to all parents and guardians who have mobility and communication difficulties
- Respects your right to privacy and will only share information when appropriate
- Is understanding of the role of a young carer and can be flexible with necessary afterschool provision
- Complies with the Disability Discrimination Act by offering disabled parents support to get their children into school
- Uses the Pupil Premium to assist eligible young carers in their education, including accessing curriculum based trips
- Raises awareness of young carers in PSHE lessons
- Maintains relevant and current young carer information on the school website
- Involve young carers in decision making around support, groups and information