

## Grange Federation Young Carers Guidance

Young carers are children and young adults under the age 18 who look after someone who has a disability, long-term illness, mental health problem, or a problem with drugs or alcohol. Young carers may be taking care of a family member or a close friend.

While helping out around the house is a normal part of growing up, Young carers will often have a vast amount of responsibility often inappropriate to their age. This may take the form of nursing tasks, domestic chores, supervision, emotional support or communication support.

There are an estimated 900 young carers registered in Wilshire, but many more that are not. At Grange Junior 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:

- Strives to identify Young carers at an early stage.
- Has a designated member of staff who has special responsibility for young carers.  
**Currently our designated liaison is Mrs Rutherford.**
- Is sensitive towards young carers' needs, and aims to show discretion. We will respect your privacy and will only share information about you and your family with people who need to know in order to help you, and to ensure your safety. We will consult with you before sharing information. We can put you in touch with our local Young Carers Service and other support services if required.
- Provides additional tuition for young carers and flexibility on work deadlines, as required. (Please speak to us if you require this support.)
- Provides both individual listening support and a lunchtime support group for young carers at least once a week.
- May also provide access to a telephone to enable you to call home during breaks, if required.
- Expects you to attend registration and lessons on time, every school day, if you are able. We also provide reasonable flexibility on attendance if absence is due to providing emergency care or a bereavement. 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.
- Liaises with the local authority to provide assistance for disabled parents in getting their children to school.
- Assists parents with disabilities and health problems in accessing parent's evenings, and communicates in a way that meets their needs.
- Will consider alternatives if you are unable to attend after school activities (e.g. sports clubs) due to your caring role. Please speak to us if this is an issue.
- Runs a session on young carers in the PSHE and Citizenship session for each year group, to help all pupils understand the issues, carers' rights and the support available.