



# Young Carers Policy

Owner	Mr T Barradas Lingard
Reviewed by:	Mr T Barradas-Lingard
Last Reviewed:	February 2025
Next Review:	February 2026

## 1. Definition

This policy aims to support and nurture the well-being and educational success of Young Carers at St Regis CE Academy.

A Young Carer is a child or young person under the age of 18 who provides care, support, or assistance to a family member or friend who is ill, disabled, has a mental health condition, or struggles with substance misuse. This policy recognises that a child or young person with a disabled sibling, will also be recognised as a Young Carer no matter how much of a caring role they have, and will be supported as such at our school.

## 2. Objectives

St Regis CE Academy aims to be a fully inclusive school which prides on creating a positive and supportive environment for all pupils without exception. St Regis CE Academy has a strong vision and clear values, guided by a deeply rooted church school ethos. Our objectives for Young Carers are:

**Identification:** To identify students who are young carers and to assess their needs.

**Support:** To offer appropriate support and resources to help young carers manage their caring responsibilities and their education.

**Awareness:** To raise awareness among staff, students, and the community about the challenges faced by young carers.

**Inclusivity:** To ensure that young carers can participate fully in school life and have access to the same opportunities as their peers.

## 3. Our Promise to Young Carers

### We promise:

- To improve the progress and raise the standard of achievement for young carers
  - To address any underlying inequalities between young carers and other students
  - To raise awareness of young carers among staff and to ensure the identification of all young carers as early as possible on entry to the school
  - To ensure that young carers feel as included and supported within our school community as possible
  - To foster respect and understanding towards young carers among all students
  - To ensure that young carers take as full a part as possible in all school activities
  - To ensure that young carers are involved in discussions and decisions affecting young carer provision
  - To ensure that young carers have access to appropriate careers guidance and opportunities
  - The school recognises that flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers
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## **4. Roles and Responsibilities**

### **4.1 Young Carer Appointed Governor**

- Acknowledge that many pupils attending their school have caring responsibilities and therefore have specific needs for which the school should be making adequate provision
- Ensure the needs of young carers are reflected in whole school planning and, where appropriate, are included in the whole school improvement plan
- Develop and maintain up-to-date knowledge about issues relating to young carers and their families, as well as relevant national and local developments, including changes in legislation and guidance
- Ensure they regularly receive and evaluate reports from the school's senior leadership team about how the school caters for young carers. Reports should identify strengths and weaknesses and make recommendations for further improvement so that young carers enjoy school and make good progress. Such reports may be discussed as discrete agenda items on young carers or as part of wider discussions, for example, on inclusion
- Consider the needs of young carers, many whom are eligible for free school meals, when agreeing and reviewing use of Pupil Premium funding

### **4.2 Young Carer Senior Leadership Leader**

- Ensure the SLT and governing body receives regular reports on strengths, weaknesses and recommendations for developing the school's provision for young carers from the Young Carers Coordinator
- Make sure that, where appropriate, young carers' needs are considered as part of the whole school development plan
- Support the Young Carers Coordinator to ensure pupil progress and support
- Agree formal joint working together agreements and information sharing protocols
- Approve support identified and amendments to school policy for young carers to flourish
- Facilitate, when required, links between the Young Carers Coordinator and feeder schools, colleges, training providers and universities, to enable effective support for young carers through transitions
- Support and work with relevant members of staff to ensure the school and its communications are accessible to families of young carers

### **4.3 Young Carer Coordinator**

- Maintain up-to-date records of young carers in the school
- Conduct regular assessments of the needs of young carers and provide report updates
- Coordinate support plans tailored to the individual needs of each young carer
- Liaise with external agencies and organizations to provide additional support and resources
- Ensure staff are informed and trained on the needs and challenges of young carers
- Present at assemblies or arrange for presentations to raise
- Run a regular lunchtime group for weekly advice and support whenever a young carer needs it
- Coordinate with staff regarding any trips or visits

### **4.4 School Staff**

Staff members will be trained to recognize the signs that a student may be a young carer and will be proactive in offering support. A designated staff member will act as the Young Carer Coordinator, serving as a point of contact and advocate for these students.

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The school has identified the following members of staff to hold a role of supporting young carers at St Regis CE Academy:

Name	Role	Responsibilities in relation to Young Carers
Teresa Badger	Young Carer Appointed Governor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlined in 4.1</li> <li>• Ensure the needs of young carers are reflected in whole school planning and, where appropriate, are included in the whole school improvement plan</li> </ul>
Tom Barradas-Lingard	Young Carer Senior Leadership Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlined in 4.2</li> <li>• To oversee the provision</li> <li>• Ensure the SLT and governing body receives regular reports on strengths, weaknesses and recommendations</li> </ul>
Trudy Bird	Safeguarding Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To oversee the provision and provide support to the Young Carer Coordinator regarding information sharing</li> </ul>
Kasia Thompson	Young Carer Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outlined in 4.3</li> <li>• To manage the day-to-day support at school,</li> <li>• preliminary assessment,</li> <li>• complete assessment paperwork,</li> <li>• run the lunchtime group,</li> <li>• train staff members and present at assemblies</li> </ul>

## 5. Identification and Assessment

Teachers and staff should be vigilant in identifying potential young carers. Indicators might include frequent absences, fatigue, incomplete homework, and emotional distress. When a young carer is identified, the Coordinator will conduct a confidential assessment to understand their specific needs and challenges.

## 6. Providing Support for Young Carers at St Regis

### 6.1 Academic Support

Young Carers will be offered flexible academic support, including:

- Adjustments to homework deadlines
- Access to quiet study areas and additional tutoring if needed
- Time out of class to attend appointments or manage emergencies

### 6.2 Emotional Support

The well-being of Young Carers is a priority. Emotional support will include:

- Access to counselling services or information
- Peer support groups and opportunities for Young Carers to share their experiences and build a support network
- Regular check-ins with the Young Carer Coordinator

### 6.3 Practical Support

Practical assistance will be provided to help Young Carers balance their responsibilities, including:

- Information and resources to help manage their caring role
- Liaison with external agencies to provide additional help at home
- Provision of school meal programs and financial support for school-related expenses

## **7. Awareness and Training**

Regular training sessions will be held for staff to ensure they are knowledgeable about the challenges faced by Young Carers and the support available to them. Awareness campaigns will be conducted to educate the entire school community about the role and challenges of Young Carers.

## **8. Inclusivity and Participation**

Young Carers will be encouraged and enabled to participate fully in school activities, including extracurricular programs, sports, and social events. The school will ensure that any barriers to participation are addressed and removed.

## **9. Supporting pupils moving between phases and preparing for adulthood**

We will share Young Carer information with the school, college, or other setting the pupil is moving to. We will agree with parents and pupils which information will be shared as part of this.

## **10. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Young Carer Coordinator will continuously monitor the effectiveness of the support provided and will make necessary adjustments to meet the evolving needs of the Young Carers. Regular feedback will be sought from Young Carers and their families to inform improvements in the policy and its implementation.

## **11. The local authority Carers Team**

At St Regis CE Academy, we pride ourselves on our work with other schools and the surrounding authorities to provide a quality Mainstream Secondary education to pupils in the area. We work closely with **Wolverhampton Carers Team:**

**Contact them on: 01902 553409**

**[Wolverhamptonyoungcarers@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Wolverhamptonyoungcarers@wolverhampton.gov.uk)**

Students may be able to access a Young Carers conversation, receive information and advice about being a young carer, and talk to a carer support worker. They can keep you up to date with events and activities going on for young people and families in Wolverhampton with a seasonal newsletter.

## **12. Conclusion**

St Regis CE Academy is committed to providing a supportive and inclusive environment for Young Carers. By recognizing their unique challenges and offering tailored support, we aim to ensure that Young Carers can thrive both academically and personally. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of these remarkable young individuals.

This information report will be reviewed by the DSL every year. It will also be updated if any changes to the information are made during the year.

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