

YOUNG CARERS POLICY

Named Staff: Rosie Butler – Assistant Community Operations Manager

SLT Link: Sally Elliott - Assistant Head for Engagement for Learning

The Oxford Academy recognises young carers to be children and young people who often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. This is usually as a result of helping to care for a parent/guardian or sibling at home. When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability, mental health problems or substance misuse problems, he or she may need a little extra support and understanding from all staff. Our young carers Policy explains how we will help any pupil who helps to look after someone at home.

Our School:

- Has a designated member of staff (Miss Butler) with special responsibility for young carers and lets all new pupils know who they are and what they can do to help.
- Runs assemblies and staff training on the challenges faced by young carers during the year.
- Can put young carers in touch with the local Young Carers Service. We can also put families in touch with other support services.
- Is accessible to parents who have mobility and communications difficulties and involves them in parents' evenings.
- Respects your right to privacy and will only share information about you and your family with people who need to know to help you.
- Will consider alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities (e.g. detention, sport coaching, concerts) due to their caring role.

Legislation and Guidance

We recognise the changes to the law since 1st April 2015 for Young carers and their families

The Children and Families Act 2014

The Care Act 2014

The school includes young carers in its whole school development plans where appropriate and in line with national and local developments, including changes in legislation and guidance affecting young carers and their families.