

## Elmwood Junior School Commitment to Young Carers

Elmwood Junior School supports Young Carers.

Elmwood Junior School is committed to meeting the needs of young carers so that they can attend and enjoy school in the same way as other pupils/students and achieve their potential.

Elmwood Junior School has a designated Young Carers' School Lead with responsibility for young carers and their families.

Elmwood Junior School only shares information with professionals and agencies on a need to know basis in order to support pupils and their families.

Elmwood Junior School actively seeks feedback and ideas from young carers and their families to shape and improve support.

Elmwood Junior School uses Pupil Premium funding to minimise any barriers to education and learning experienced by eligible young carers.

Elmwood Junior School has an effective referral system and strong partnership in place with relevant external agencies, including the local young carers' service.

## Young Carers School Leads

Mrs Devecioglu is the **Young Carers School Operational Lead**.

This means she will:

- Manage the school's provision for young carers and their families on a day-to-day basis.
- Act as the main contact for young carers and their families in the school.
- Advise and support school staff about how to identify and support young carers.
- Be the contact point for external agencies, such as the local young carers service, and feeder/linked schools, supporting effective inter-agency working to meet the needs of young carers and their families.

Mrs Carol Soar is the **Young Carers School Senior Leadership Team Lead**.

This means she will:

- 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 the rest of the Senior Team and governing body understand issues relating to young carers and their families, and secure and maintain their commitment to developing a whole school model of identification and support for young carers.
- Develop and support the school's processes for identifying, assessing, supporting and referring young carers and their families.



# Young Carers



Young carers under 18 who help someone with a health problem or disability at home.

Young carers often learn lots of skills because they look after someone.



Don't miss out on school because you're a young carer.

Young carers often feel tired and stressed.

1 in 3 young carers have someone 12-20 years with a health problem.

**Lots of children look after someone at home who is ill or disabled.**  
They often learn lots of skills because they look after someone. But sometimes they:  
- Feel tired and stressed  
- Don't have as much fun  
- Miss school  
- Find school difficult  
If you help look after someone at home, don't miss out. Talk to:

Young carers often feel tired and stressed.

The average age of a young carer

**Babble**  
The national charity for young carers



Information and support



## Who are young carers?

A young carer is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person who is ill, disabled, has a mental health condition, or addiction problem.

‘A young carer becomes vulnerable when their caring roles risks impacting upon their emotional or physical wellbeing and their prospects in education and life.’ (Department of Health, 2014).

Young carers often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. These can include:

- Practical tasks – cooking, housework and shopping.
- Physical care – lifting or helping someone use the stairs.
- Personal care – dressing, washing, helping with toileting needs.
- Emotional support – listening, calming, being present.
- Managing the family budget, collecting benefits and prescriptions.
- Medication management.
- Looking after younger siblings.
- Helping someone communicate.

## Will there be young carers in every school?

It is likely that there will be many young carers at every school in England.

The 2011 Census identified over 177,000 young carers in England and Wales, although this is widely believed to be the tip of the iceberg.

Further research (BBC, 2010) suggests there could be 700,000 young carers in the UK, many unaware of the impact that caring is having on their lives. That means about one in 12 secondary aged pupils have caring responsibilities.

39% of young carers have said that nobody in their school was aware of their caring role (The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, 2010).

If you believe you /your child is a Young Carer please contact Mrs Devocioglu for support.

## Young Carers Award

We are applying for the Young Carers in Schools Award – to find out more see:

<https://youngcarersinschools.com>

We are working with the Croydon Young Carers Project to apply for this award and Bex, Mullins, Young Carers Education worker will be providing support to young carers in our school.

## Young Carers Project Croydon, Off the Record

We offer support for Young Carers aged 7 – 25 years old

To contact us: Call 02086499339 (option 2), or email

youngcarers@offtherecordcroydon.org or visit [www.offtherecordcroydon.org](http://www.offtherecordcroydon.org)



**YOUNG CARERS PROJECT** TALK TO US OFF THE RECORD

### PROVIDING SUPPORT TO YOUNG CARERS

**WHO ARE WE?**  
The Young Carers Project is a free, friendly and professional service, offering support to young people aged 7-25, caring for someone with a physical disability, mental health issue, long-term physical illness, learning difficulty or for drug and alcohol dependency.

*"Coming to Young Carers lets me have a break from home life and have some fun without worrying"*

**WHAT DO WE DO?**  
We offer a wide range of services to support young carers, including:

- Assessment
- Respite (trips, activities, groups)
- Case work including 1-1 support (emotional, educational, whole family)
- Referral to external services for children and adults where appropriate
- Art Therapy and Counselling
- Workshops
- Weekly Homework Club
- Training opportunities
- Referral to external providers for respite and therapeutic services
- New Young Adult Carers Service for young carers aged over 18