

## Protocol for Young Carers at StNicholas' Primary School

At St.Nicholas' Primary school we are aware that a number of our pupils fulfil a caring role at home.

We believe that all our pupils have the right to equal access to education, regardless of what is happening to them at home. We take account of all our pupil's varied life experiences and needs and recognise that where one of our pupils does have to look after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability or substance misuse problem, they may need extra support to help them get the most out of school.

We will endeavour to understand issues faced by young carers and support them through a whole school approach and through working with other agencies and professionals. We are committed to meeting the needs of young carers so that they are enabled and encouraged to attend and to have equal access to education as their peers.

At St.Nicholas' Primary School, Sharon Hembury (School Wellbeing Mentor) has been assigned to take the lead and have special responsibility for Young Carers.

During the admission process we will endeavour to ascertain and identify where young people have a caring role and whether it has impacted on their education.

Training will be offered to staff regarding the issues faced by our Young carers and how this impacts on their education.

The school will evaluate data and monitor the progress of our Young Carers on a regular basis.

Confidentiality of students and their families will be respected at all times and information will only be shared with other agencies on a need to know basis in order to provide appropriate support.

We will undertake to communicate the availability of support to pupils and their families with details on how to access it and sign-post pupils onto appropriate services. "We will work in partnership where appropriate with external agencies to ensure that our pupils receive the support they need both in and out of school.

St.Nicholas' school adheres to the Equality Act 2010. We always aim to be accessible and welcoming to parents/carers with disabilities and/or illness, offering additional support to enable attendance at parent's evenings or other events and home visiting where necessary.

The difficulties that can be faced by Young Carers will be highlighted through the PSHE curriculum, also encouraging students to self-refer where they feel that this applies to them.

St.Nicholas's school will actively seek feedback from our Young Carers and their families in order to constantly monitor and provide provision for them.