

Robert Le Kyng



Young Carer Charter

We are children who are also carers. We believe we should have the same rights as other children and young people, including the rights to:

- Be able to enjoy being a child whilst being a carer
- Be in a school that gives us the help we need
- Have time for fun
- Be listened to and supported
- Be treated and assessed as individuals
- Be valued and appreciated
- Stop our caring role if we feel we need to
- Grow up into independent adults



Robert Le Kyng Young Carer Policy

At Robert Le Kyng Primary School, we believe that all children and young people have the right to education. We believe that they should be enabled and encouraged to attend and enjoy school and have equal access to education as their peers.

Who are young carers?

Young carers are children and young people whose lives are affected by looking after someone at home. They are carrying out tasks and responsibilities which are additional to those appropriate for their age. The person they look after may have one or more of the following:

- Physical disability
- Mental health Issues
- Learning difficulties
- Alcohol or drug misuse
- Long-term illness

A young carer may undertake some or all of the following:

- Practical tasks – e.g. cooking, housework, shopping
- Physical care – e.g. lifting, helping up stairs, physiotherapy
- Personal care – e.g. dressing, washing, toileting needs
- Emotional support – e.g. listening, calming, being present
- Household management – e.g. paying bills
- Looking after siblings
- Interpretation
- Administering medication

Young carers can feel a range of emotions in response to this. Their social lives can be restricted with few opportunities for fun and after school activities.

If we suspect someone is a young carer, we will be sensitive when we approach them about this as we are aware that they may not want their peers to know. As part of our induction programme, we ask if children have a young caring role.

What support do we offer?

Our school has a member of staff who is designated with special responsibilities for young carers and their families and lets all new pupils and their families know who they are and how they can access support from them. This person is the designated child protection lead. We make sure all children know who this is.

We:

- have a strong partnership with the Swindon Young Carers group and can put young carers in touch with them and also put families in touch with other support services.
- actively seek feedback and ideas from young carers and their families in order to shape and improve the provision for young carers.
- teach all children to respect differences and challenges faced by families and about family and caring issues through the PSHE programme and school assemblies.
- provide training to staff on young carer issues and keep up to date with national and local developments.
- consider alternatives and are flexible when responding to the needs of young carers.
- ensure our premises are accessible and welcoming to parents / carers.
- support pupils and families with the transition process, sharing agreed information with the new school.
- hold termly activity sessions for our young carers.