

# St Charles RC Primary School

## Young Carers Policy



## CHRIST IS AT THE CENTRE



**C**ompassionate  
**H**elpful  
**R**espectful  
**I**nclusive  
**S**haring  
**T**ruthful



# St Charles RC Primary School

## Young Carers Policy



*Our mission at St. Charles RC Primary School is to try and centre our life in Jesus Christ, the spiritual foundation of our community.*

*We aim to pass on the faith we share in partnership with you.*

*We want the children in our care to grow and develop to their full potential within a caring Catholic community which recognises fully their true worth and God given talents. We look forward to working with you in a spirit of mutual trust and support.*

*We take pride belonging to St. Charles RC Primary School.*

### MISSION STATEMENT

**As a family of God, we love to learn and learn to love**

## Introduction

### Young Carers

Here at St Charles RC Primary School we are aware that some students in our school may well have caring roles at home. If you help to look after someone at home, you should have someone to talk to. Here in school we have dedicated staff available for students to talk to, in confidence, if you feel you need some help or just a friendly chat.

Our 'Young Carers Team' are Mrs Clare Campbell and Mrs Drake. In addition to the leads, Mrs Hackett (qualified counsellor) also offers 1-1 sessions and support.

### Our Young Carers Mission

We believe that all children and young people should have equal access to education, regardless of their circumstances at home and that whilst some children have to take on

inappropriate or excessive levels of caring responsibilities we need to make sure that their educational needs are addressed.

When a young person does look after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability, mental health issue or suffers substance misuse problem, they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school.

We aim to understand the issues faced by young carers and support any student who helps to look after someone at home.

We aim to support young carers through a whole-school approach and through working with other agencies and professionals, with the understanding that support for the whole family is in the best interests of the young carer.

At St Charles RC Primary we are aware that some students in our school may well have caring roles at home.

### **Definition of a young carer**

“A young carer is a child or young person under the age of 18 who carries out significant caring tasks and assumes a level of responsibility for another person which would normally be taken by an adult”

We believe that all children and young people should have equal access to education, regardless of their circumstances at home and that whilst some children have to take on excessive levels of caring responsibilities, we need to make sure that their educational needs are addressed. When a young person does look after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability, mental health issue or suffers from a substance misuse problem, they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school. As a school, we aim to understand the issues faced by young carers and support any pupil who helps to look after someone at home. Our aim is to support young carers using a whole school approach and through liaising with wider agencies and other professionals, with the understanding that support for the whole family will be in the best interests of the young carer.

### **Various strategies have been implemented by school in order to ensure this:**

- A school lead has been identified and has special responsibility for young carers and their families
- Pupils and families are made aware of the identity of the school lead
- During transition/mid -year admissions process. The school will identify whether, parents/carer/siblings have disabilities or long term physical or mental health issues.
- Deliver awareness sessions to each year group via regular assemblies.
- The school will use and evaluate data effectively to monitor and track progress
- The school will support pupils to have regular attendance and good punctuality
- The right to pupil's and family's privacy will be respected. And information will be shared on a need to know basis.
- Young carers will be referred or signposted to other support agencies and professionals as appropriate.
- The school is accessible to parents/carers/siblings with disabilities and /or illness. We offer additional support to enable them to attend parent's evenings and other school events.
- Home visits are regularly undertaken to enable support be offered

- The school will allow young carers to use a telephone to call home during breaks and lunchtimes so as to reduce any worry they may have about a family member.
- School will be flexible in regards to ability to complete homework, complete detentions and attend extra -curricular activities.
- The school will endeavour to identify, support and signpost all students in need of support.

Salford Young Carers Service works in partnership with our school to offer appropriate support to young carers both within school and the wider community. The Partnership between Salford Young Carers service and ST Charles RC Primary School provide the following:

#### **For Young Carers & Young Adult Carer:**

- Individual tailored support packages
- Regular individual sessions
- Support in school
- Opportunities to achieve
- Opportunities to contribute to and develop the service For Young People & Their Families:
- Informal consultation / discussion on individual circumstances
- Formal assessments as young cares
- Referral / signposting to other services including accessing support for adult carers within the family
  - For Staff:
    - Awareness raising sessions for staff
    - Awareness raising sessions for pupils in school
    - Consultation on individual cases Useful contacts for Staff/Pupils/Parents & Carers:

Mrs Clare Campbell  
 Young Carers Operational Lead  
 St Charles RC Primary School  
 Tel: 0161 794 4536

Mrs Julie York

Young Carers Support

St Charles RC Primary School  
Tel: 0161 794 4536

Salford Young Carers Service PRT  
Salford Carer Centre  
1 St Phillips Place Salford  
M3 6FA Tel: 0161 833 0217  
Email: [carers.centre@salford.gov.uk](mailto:carers.centre@salford.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.carers.org/local-centre/salford](http://www.carers.org/local-centre/salford)

Paul Moran Manager  
Salford Young Carers Service  
Nicola Chipman  
Carers Support Worker  
[www.facebook.com/YAC-Salford-Carers](http://www.facebook.com/YAC-Salford-Carers) [www.twitter.com/YACSalfordCarer](http://www.twitter.com/YACSalfordCarer)

### **Equalities Statement:**

St Charles RC Primary School is committed to valuing diversity and to equality of opportunity. We aim to create and promote an environment in which pupils, parents and staff are treated fairly and with respect, and feel able to contribute to the best of their abilities. The Governing Body recognises that it is unlawful to take into account anyone's gender, marital status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, religious beliefs, age or sexual orientation. Full consideration has been given to this during the formulation of this policy as it is the governors' aim that no-one at St Charles RC Primary school should suffer discrimination, either directly or indirectly, or harassment on any of these grounds.