YOUNG CARERS POLICY

Reviewed: March 2026
Review date: March 2027

The policy was formally adopted by the Governors Board on:	**Date:**

Intent Statement
Canvey Primary School and Nursery acknowledge that Young Carers may need extra support to ensure they have equal access to education. Through this policy, the school is giving the message that Young Carers education is important.

AIMS

- To improve the progress and raise the standard of achievement for young carers
- To address any underlying inequalities between young carers and other students
- To raise awareness of young carers amongst staff and to ensure the identification of all young carers as early as possible upon entry to the school
- To ensure that young carers feel as supported within their school community as possible
- To foster respect and understanding towards young carers among all students
- To ensure that young carers take part as fully as possible in all school activities
- To ensure that young carers are involved in discussions and decisions affecting young carers provision
- To ensure that young carers can engage in extracurricular activities
- The school recognises that flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers

STRATEGIES

- To include space on school application forms for parents to decare:
    a) Whether or not their child is a young carer
    b) Whether or not their child is registered as a young carer

- To work with young carers to ensure that all relevant school staff receive training around how to identify and support young carers.

- To create a young carer, register accessible to all relevant members of staff within the school

- To appoint a member of the Governing Body (Mrs Breading) who will be responsible for ensuring that provision of a high standard is offered to young carers

- To appoint a member of staff as young carer champion (Mrs Bainbridge) who will be responsible for overseeing the young carer provision

- To appoint a member of staff to lead on young carer provision (Mrs Bainbridge) who will be responsible for maintaining a young carer support group and corresponding with external agencies when needed

- To monitor the progress of young carers and respond accordingly with appropriate intervention where necessary

- To monitor the attendance of young carers and respond accordingly with appropriate intervention where necessary

- To make reasonable adjustments to usual school policies and show flexibility on a case-by-case basis regarding issues such as lateness to school, late homework and poor attendance

- To ensure that young carers have access to the mental health support available across the school where necessary

- To work with Essex Young Carers to raise awareness of young carers and develop a culture of respect for young carers among the student community and also to encourage young carers to come forward and make themselves known by delivering student assemblies and/ or PSHE lessons
- To offer young carers extra-curricular opportunities for relaxation, leisure and social connection
- To support young carers in getting to and from the school when necessary
- To ensure that young carers have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion round the school provision for young carers
- To maintain and regularly review our young carers policy (this will be reviewed annually)
- To ensure the designated professional for young carers (Mrs Bainbridge) will liaise with relevant colleagues and other relevant agencies regarding their caring responsibilities, with the consent of the young carer. All pupils will be made aware of the designated professional
- The school will provide young carers with opportunities to speak to someone in private and staff will not discuss their situation in front of peers
- The school appreciate that young carers will not discuss their family situation unless they feel comfortable. The young person's caring role will be acknowledged and respected
- The school will treat young carers in a sensitive and child-centred way, upholding confidentiality
- The school will ensure young carers can access all available support services in school
- The school will follow child protection procedures regarding any young Carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring