

14th March 2018

Whole School Commitment

Dear Parents and Carers

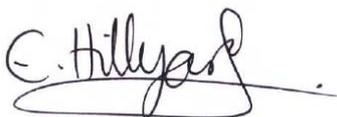
A young carer is someone under 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled, or misuses drugs or alcohol. Cox Green School are aware that given the impact this can have on a young person, it is likely that their educational life may be affected. As a result, Cox Green School is committed to meeting the needs of young carers so that they can attend and enjoy their school in the same way as other students and achieve their potential.

There are approximately 700,000 young carers in the UK, meaning about 1 in 12 secondary aged pupils. There are likely to be young carers in every school or college. Being a carer often means an inability to juggle caring responsibilities and school work, resulting in young carers potentially missing school, being bullied, feeling isolated, or not being able to access the work given to them. At Cox Green School we want to make sure that young carers get the same opportunities granted to their peer group, that they feel supported in their everyday activities, and that they have time to enjoy being a young person.

Caring tasks can range from practical tasks, physical and personal care, emotional support, helping to give medicine, or looking after siblings. This is not an exhaustive list, and given the scope of caring tasks, Cox Green School wish to reflect that in a broad spectrum of support. The school has a designated Young Carers' School Lead – Daniel Aston with responsibility for young carers and their families. Pupils and families are aware of Mr Aston and can contact him via youngcarers@coxgreen.com. Staff can also use this mailbox, should they want to pass something on.

Support available includes various homework clubs, a widely available enrichment programme, peer mentors, a weekly drop in session and monthly young carer groups. There is a counsellor and behaviour mentor that young carers can be referred to for further support, or they can be signposted to external agencies for support outside of school. The school only shares information with professionals and agencies on a need to know basis in order to support pupils and their families.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy Head teacher

Cox Green School