

Melbourn Village College

Young Carers Policy	
Committee & date of approval	Full Governors – 10.5.21
Last review date	Feb 2021
Review Cycle	3 years to be reviewed in May 2024
Responsible Officer:	Assistant Principal

“Young carers are children and young people under 18 years old who provide unpaid care to a family member who is physically or mentally ill, disabled or misuses substances’ (Carers Trust 2014)

‘Young Adult Carers are young people aged 14-25 who care, unpaid, for a friend or family member who could not cope without their support’ (Carers Trust, 2014)

At Melbourn Village College we are aware that some of our pupils may be caring for a family member at home and may require support to help them attend and enjoy school in the same way as other pupils in order to achieve their potential.

We have the following practices and strategies in place to support Young Carers in our school:

- There is a designated Young Carers School Lead with responsibility for young carers and their families this is Mrs Daly (Pupil Premium & Young Carers Champion) - email: sdaly@melbournvc.org
- The Young Carer’s Senior Leadership Team Lead is Mr Euan Willder (Assistant Principal) – email: ewillder@melbournvc.org
- The Young Carer’s Governor Lead is: **<name and contact details>**
- Melbourn Village College has adopted a whole school approach to supporting young carers and their families, and information will only be shared with professionals and agencies on a ‘need to know’ basis in order to support young carers and their families.
- Partnership working with local young carers services has been developed to embed ongoing training on young carers for our staff and Governors.
- Information and signposting is available for pupils on the front corridor, as well as via tutors and other support staff.
- Staff and families can access information regarding the identification of young carers and how to self-identify through communications home and the school website.
- Identification of young carers during the enrolment process is in place to actively monitor attendance and attainment, and appropriate action will be taken to support young carers and their families where attendance and attainment drops below the expected level.
- Support for young carers and their family during the transition process is available to share agreed information with their new school/ college about their caring role.
- Melbourn Village College will look to consider alternative arrangements if a young carer cannot attend after school activities. The school will also consider lunchtime detentions rather than after school detentions.
- The school will allow young carers to use a phone to call home during breaks and lunchtimes to reduce the worry that they may have about a family member.