



# The Federation of The Downs & Northbourne Church of England Primary Schools

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## *Young Carers*

### **School Mission Statement**

#### **Federation of The Downs and Northbourne CEP Schools**

Our mission is to create a school in which every member feels valued, irrespective of their race, gender or disability and where the development of the whole child is paramount.

We expect high standards from all, and try to provide the maximum opportunities for every member to fulfil their individual potential. Our Christian ethos encompasses tolerance and cultural diversity which will enable us to embrace the challenges of our world.

<b>Last Review Date: Mar 2018</b>	<b>Next Review Date:</b>			Seyan Tills
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## Young Carers Policy

The Downs CEP is aware that pupils who attend our school may have caring responsibilities at home. We are committed to supporting our young carers so that they may access and engage with their education. We believe that all children and young people have the right to an education, regardless of what is happening at home and this policy outlines how we set out to support young carers within our school.

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

*“a child or a young person who provides care to another family member or relative who has a physical illness or disability, mental health problem, sensory disability, severe learning difficulty, or has a substance misuse problem”*

When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability or substance misuse problem, he or she may need a little extra support to help him or her get the most out of school.

### **Our school:**

- Has identified key members of staff, Mrs T Newton and Mr M Turner (FLO), with lead responsibility for young carers. All new pupils will be made aware of who they are and what they can do to help.
- Ensures staff are aware of the needs of young carers and how to identify them within school via staff training and email updates.
- Offers PSHE lesson and pupil assembly on the challenges faced by young carers to children in Year 3 and up.
- Has an information point for young carers highlighting what is meant by the term young carer and what support is available to them.
- Can signpost to the FLO for families and agency support via the Early Help Notification process or signpost young carers in need of additional support to the local Young Carers Service.
- Is accessible to parents who have mobility and communication difficulties and involves them in parents' evenings.
- Respects the Young Carers right to privacy and will only share information about them and their family with people who need to know in order to help them.
- Will consider alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities e.g. clubs night or school trips due to their caring role.

- Will monitor the emotional impact and the extent of caring duties of our young carers by using our well being scans in terms 1, 3 and 5. Reviewing the progress of our young carers through pupil progress meetings and weekly SLT meetings. Where ongoing concerns exist we will seek parental consent to refer young carers to the Kent Young Carers Programme for more formal assessments using Panoc-YC20 and Maca-YC18 assessments as required.
- Has a named young carer lead on the Governing Body to ensure that policies and practises are inclusive of young carers.

Signed:  Pastor Seyan (on behalf of Governing Body)

Date: 12 November 2015

To be reviewed bi-annually.