



Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Young Carers Policy

This policy is written in conjunction with the advice issued by the Carers Trust and The Children's Society guide to achieving the Young Carers in School Award.

SJWMS acknowledges that young carers may need extra support to ensure they have equal access to education. Through this policy, SJWMS recognises that young carer's education is important.

Date written: January 2025

Date of next review: September 2026

Roles and Responsibilities

Young Carer SLT Lead - Mr C Morris

Young Carer Operational Lead - Mrs J Wheeler

Young Carers' Lead Governor - Arun Aggarwal

Section One - Aims and Objectives

SJWMS Aims

- To improve the progress and raise the standard of achievement for young carers.
- To address any underlying inequalities between young carers and their peers.
- To raise awareness of young carers among staff and to ensure the identification of all young carers as early as possible on entry to the school.
- To ensure that young carers feel as included and supported within their school community as possible.
- To foster respect and understanding towards young carers among all students.
- To ensure that young carers take as full a part as possible in all school activities.
- To ensure that young carers are involved in discussions and decisions affecting young carer provision.
- To ensure that young carers have access to appropriate careers guidance and opportunities.
- SJWMS recognises that flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers.
- To keep up to date with national and local developments that may affect young carers and their families.

SJWMS Objectives

- To establish a member of the Governing Body who will be responsible for ensuring that SJWMS provision offered to young carers is of a high standard.
- To establish a young carer lead in the Senior Leadership Team who will be responsible for overseeing young carer provision.
- To establish a young carer operational lead who will be responsible for maintaining young carer support and liaising with external agencies such as Carers First dependent on a young carer's circumstances and needs.
- To maintain and regularly review our young carers' policy.

Section Two - Strategies

Promoting

- To ensure that all relevant school staff receive training every academic year on how to identify, refer and support young carers.
- To work with Carers First and Life Skills teaching staff to deliver assemblies, tutorials and weekly topics to raise awareness of young carers and develop a culture of respect for young carers amongst the student community.
- To encourage young carers to come forward by displaying school wide notices providing contact information.

Identifying

- To include space on Applica Years 7 & 12 entry application forms for parents to declare whether or not their child is a young carer.
- To use information from the transition plan to put support in place for new entrants.
- To check information sources such as CP files, census data, CTF data and primary schools for any identifying references to the child being a young carer.
- To maintain and keep updated young carer information on Bromcom and in the Staff Shared drive.
- To ensure referrals to Carers First are with the consent of the young carer/parent.
- SJWMS will treat young carers in a sensitive and child-centered manner and uphold confidentiality.
- SJWMS will follow child protection procedures regarding any young carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring.

Support

- To provide young carers with 1:1 mentoring on a fortnightly basis.
- To provide a termly group meeting with the opportunity to give feedback and discuss SJWMS provision.
- To make reasonable adjustments and show flexibility on a case-by-case basis regarding issues such as lateness, homework and attendance.
- To ensure that young carers have access to mental health support in school where necessary.
- To offer young carers extra curricular activities within school.
- To support young carers in getting to and from school where necessary.
- To offer a programme of careers advice and guidance with the opportunity of work experience placements in Year 12.

Monitoring

- To monitor the progress of young carers using bi-termly reports to track subject grades and average point scores.
- To monitor the attendance and lateness of young carers on a termly basis.
- To respond accordingly with appropriate intervention where necessary.

Signed off by:	Mr C Morris Deputy Principal	January 2025
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