



# Young Carers Policy

**CAPA College**

**Approved by:**

Governors

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# **CAPA College Young Carers Policy**

## **Contents of Policy**

1. Intent- pg 3
2. Aims- pg 3
3. Strategies- pg 4 and 5
4. Student Young Carers Role- pg 6



## 1. Intent

- > CAPA College acknowledges that young carers may need extra support to ensure they have equal access to education. Through this policy, the college is giving the message that young carers' education is important.
- > Have a clear and transparent process for the use and allocation of 16 to 19 process funds.

## 2. 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 among staff and to ensure the identification of all young carers as early as possible on entry to the College
- > To ensure that young carers feel as included and supported within their College 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 College 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
- > The College recognises that flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers
- > Make clear to parents/carers and students the attendance and behaviour conditions for receiving the funds



### 3. Strategies

- > To include space on College application forms for students and/or parents to declare:
  - Whether or not their child is a young carer
  - Whether or not their child is registered as a young carer
- > To work with Young Carers to ensure that all relevant College staff receive training around how to identify and support young carers
- > To create a young carer, register accessible to all relevant members of the pastoral team and teaching staff
- > To appoint a member of the Governing Body who will be responsible for ensuring that provision of a high standard is offered to young carers – Jenny Makin
- > To appoint a young carer lead in the Senior Leadership Team who will be responsible for overseeing young carer provision – Claire Nicholson and Katy James
- > To appoint a young carer lead in the Student body who will be responsible for ensuring Student Voice is heard – 25/26 Anya Lamprey, 26/27 TBC
- > To appoint a member of staff to lead on young carer provision who will be responsible for maintaining a young carer support group and corresponding with external agencies such as Wakefield Children's Safeguarding Partnership to stay up to date on a young carer's circumstances and needs- Emily Webster and Georgia Jones
- > 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 College policies and show flexibility on a case-by-case basis regarding issues such as lateness to College, late homework and poor attendance
- > To ensure that young carers have access to the mental health support available across the College where necessary
- > To work with 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 forwards and make themselves known by delivering student assemblies and PSHE lessons
- > To ensure that young carers have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion around the college provision for young carers



### 3. Strategies continued...

- > To offer an individualised programme of careers advice and guidance
- > To maintain and regularly review our young carer's policy. This will be reviewed bi-annually
- > To ensure the designated professional for young carers will liaise with relevant colleagues and other relevant agencies regarding their caring responsibilities, with the consent of the young carer.
- > All students will be made aware of the designated professional
- > The college will provide young carers with opportunities to speak to someone in private and staff will not discuss their situation in front of their peers
- > The college appreciates 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 college will treat young carers in a sensitive and child-centred way, upholding confidentiality
- > The college will ensure young carers can access all available support services in college
- > The college will follow child protection procedures regarding any young carer at risk of significant harm due to inappropriate levels of caring
- > The college recognises that flexibility may be needed when responding to the needs of young carers. Available provision includes (but is not limited to):
  - access to a telephone during breaks and lunchtime to phone home
  - negotiable deadlines for homework/coursework (when needed)
  - access to additional support from tutors
  - identifying support for them and their family to enable them to attend College trips and educational activities
  - access for parents with impaired mobility
  - alternative communication options for parents who are sensory impaired or housebound
  - advice to parents if there are difficulties in transporting a young carer to College, access to College for wider support i.e. food bank



#### **4. Student Young Carer Role**

- > Students to be able to communicate with staff so that they are able to take part as fully as possible in lessons and opportunities offered in College
- > Tell us in advance of deadlines if there are issues completing homework
- > Make us aware of any changes to your caring role
- > Let us know if you need more support

Additional Information Available on MyDay – Young Carers Tile