

January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Levenshulme High School we are a community that is proud of all our students. We always champion those who do something special and we feel it is essential to be able to help and support Young Carers and their families in order to remove some of the additional pressures that they may be facing.

A Young Carer is someone under the age of 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol. The tasks and level of caring undertaken by the young person can vary according to the nature of the illness or disability, the level and need for care, and the structure of the family as a whole. It may be that just one of the caring/supporting roles is their responsibility or it might be shared with another sibling or another parent. Young Carers often take on practical caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult such as physical, emotional or personal care, care of the home, managing the family budget, collecting prescriptions, taking someone to doctors or appointments or medication management. It could be looking after younger siblings or helping someone communicate perhaps through interpreting or sign language. This would be above and beyond the normal teenage chores around the home.

Research from the BBC in 2010 found that as many as one in 12 secondary school pupils have some level of caring responsibility. Here at our school, we recognise the additional pressures our Young Carers face, alongside the increasing demands of the GCSE curriculum, and are keen to ensure that they are adequately supported to perform to the best of their ability in their school work at all times and are able to realise their full academic potential. We have a number of Young Carers already identified to us in school who are able to benefit from our comprehensive programme of support and we value and celebrate the important contribution they make to our school community.

Therefore, if your child has any caring responsibilities at home that may fit into any of the categories outlined in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Schofield or Ms Dooley, our Young Carers' Champions in school, so that we are able to fully support your child in their role.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch or see our website for further information.

Yours faithfully,



**Miss D Johnson**  
Co-Headteacher



**Mr N A Johnson**  
Co-Headteacher

