

**17 July, 2023**

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

**Identifying and Supporting Young Carers at Haydon School**

At Haydon we are aware that some of our pupils may be young carers. Young carers are children and young people aged from 5 – 18 years old who help to look after someone in their household who has a disability, mental or physical ill-health or misuses substances. This could be a child caring for a sibling with autism, a mother with depression, a father with cancer or even a grandparent with dementia. They often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. Research suggests there are at least 700,000 young carers in the UK (and at least 2 in every classroom) but many do not realise they are a young carer or know that there is help available to them.

We know that many young carers need a little extra support to enjoy and achieve at school which is why we are working in partnership with Carers Trust Hillingdon's Young Carers Service to ensure that all young carers at Haydon are identified and supported.

As Haydon's Young Carers' Lead, I have responsibility for ensuring all young carers are able to enjoy all aspects of school and reach their potential. If you think your child might be a young carer, or could be affected by any of the issues highlighted in this letter, please let me know by completing the [online form linked here](#). If you have any questions or would like to speak to me directly, please contact me on the school's number.

Please be assured that any information you share will be treated sensitively and only shared with your consent.

Yours sincerely

**Ms Wyatt**  
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

