



Bury C.E. Primary School



Headteacher: Mr T Moore, B.Ed (Hons)

NPQH www.bury.w-sussex.sch.uk

Email: office@bury.school

Tel: 01798 831502

27th March 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian

Identifying and supporting young carers at Bury CE Primary

We are committed to ensuring that all students get the support they need to have a positive school experience, are happy in school and can achieve their full potential. We know that for some students, factors outside of school can have a big impact on this, particularly if there is someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction. We think in every class there could be pupils who are helping to support someone because of one of these factors – we call these students **young carers**.

After the Easter holidays, pupils will be completing a questionnaire to tell us about any support they provide their family outside of school. This information is for school only and will help us to identify any pupils that may benefit from some additional pastoral support. If you do not wish your child to take part in this, please let me know (sendco@bury.school) as soon as possible.

Students can be young carers for lots of different reasons: -

- They might be providing physical support to a parent with a physical illness such as fibromyalgia or ME, such as cooking, fetching things or helping with things like putting shoes on or doing the shopping
- They might be helping a parent with a disability who needs help with more personal tasks such as getting dressed, bathing or changing dressings
- Or it could be more emotional support – like being there if their autistic sibling is upset, taking responsibility for young siblings whilst parents attend health appointments, or checking that a parent with depression/anxiety is ok.

Some young carers might be doing lots of caring, others just a small amount but are impacted by the situation at home for example by worrying about the person with the health condition or needing to do more things for themselves compared to other students.

There is lots of support available for young carers and their families should they ever need it

– both inside school:-

- a) access to a telephone during breaks and lunchtime to phone home
- b) negotiable deadlines for homework/coursework (when needed)
- c) in-school opportunities to complete homework (if necessary)
- d) identifying support for them and their family to enable them to attend school trips and educational activities
- e) access for parents with impaired mobility
- f) alternative communication options for parents who are sensory impaired or housebound

AND outside of school:-

- a) advice to parents if there are difficulties in transporting a young carer to school
- b) access to school for wider support i.e. food bank
- c) Consent to a referral to the West Sussex Young Carers in Schools Service

If you think that any of the above applies to your child, and that they might possibly be a young carer then please office@bury.school
Westburton Lane, Bury, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1HB





contact Mrs Seymour (Key Stage 1 Lead/Sendco) who is the Young Carers Operational Lead, Mr Moore (Headteacher), Young Carers Lead or complete the reply slip below.

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Even if you feel your child or family are doing really well and don't need any support, we find that it's better for us to be aware and have them on our radar as potential young carers, in case the situation suddenly changes and they (or you) do need support. It just means that you and your child don't have to start from scratch with letting us know what is going on if things have become difficult.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Seymour
Key Stage 1 Lead
Sendco
Young Carers' School Operational Lead



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Reply slip



Pupil's name:

Class:

Does the pupil have parents or other family members who are ill, disabled, or have a mental health problem or an addiction? **Yes No**

If you wish, you can give further details here: (not required)

Would you like more information about the types of support the school provides to young carers?

Yes No

Please provide a name and telephone number or email address so that we can contact you.

Name

Telephone/email address:

Westburton Lane, Bury, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1HB

