

The logo features a blue trapezoidal shape containing the text 'The Kite Academy Trust' and 'Flying high together'. Below this, four wavy lines in blue, green, red, and purple extend downwards and to the left, ending in a faint, stylized kite shape. A vertical light blue bar is positioned to the right of the text box.

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KITE ACADEMY TRUST

YOUNG CARERS POLICY

P1058

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1 Introduction

The Kite Academy Trust is committed to supporting young carers to access education. This policy aims to ensure young carers within The Kite Academy Trust are identified and offered appropriate support to access the education to which they are entitled.

2 Definition

A young carer is a child or young person (under 18 years old) who is helping to look after someone. This may be at home, but could also be a person who lives away from the family home. Most are caring for a parent, but some may be taking responsibility for a sibling, grandparent or other relative. It may also be the case that the young carer is looking after a family friend. In some instances, a young carer may care for more than one person. The person(s) they look after will have one or more of:

- Physical disability (including sensory disability)
- Learning disability
- Mental health problem
- Chronic illness
- Substance misuse problem

A young carer will take on additional responsibilities to those appropriate to their age and development. A young carer might be providing the main care or share responsibilities with another family member. The caring tasks that a young carer has to deal with can range from:

- Nursing care – giving medication, injections, changing dressings, assisting with mobility etc.
- Personal intimate care – washing, dressing, feeding and helping with toilet requirements
- Emotional care – being compliant, monitoring the emotional state of the person cared for, listening, being a shoulder to cry on, supporting a parent through depression and trying to cheer them up
- Domestic care – doing a substantial amount of housework, cooking, shopping, cleaning, laundry etc.
- Financial care – running the household, bill paying, benefit collection etc.
- Child care – taking responsibility for younger siblings in addition to their other caring responsibilities

At The Kite Academy Trust, we believe that all children and young people have the right to an education, regardless of what is happening at home. When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a serious illness, disability or substance misuse problem, they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school.

Our academies:

- Have an identified member of staff (usually the academy's SENCO) with responsibility for young carers and lets all new pupils know who they are and what they can do to help.
- Can put young carers in touch with the local Young Carers Service. Access to other support services can also be shared with families.
- Are accessible to parents who have mobility and communication difficulties and involve them in parents' evenings.
- Respects an individual's right to privacy and will only share information about them and their family with people who need to know to be able to help.
- Will consider alternatives if a young carer is unable to attend out of school activities e.g. sports coaching, concerts etc. due to their caring role.
- Allow young carers to telephone home during break and lunchtimes where appropriate and necessary.
- Comply with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 by offering support to disabled parents to get their children into school.

Further information and support can be obtained by contacting the identified member of staff (usually the SENCO) in each academy.

Document Management

Document ID:	P1058		
Last Review:	April 2022	Review Period:	3 years
Responsibility of:	Deputy CEO	Ratified by:	Trustees (18.04.22)



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