



August 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Identifying and Supporting Young Carers at Sandwell Academy

At Sandwell Academy, we are aware that some of our students are young carers. A young carer is someone who is under 18, **unpaid**, and is looking after a family member or a friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or addiction problems. They often take on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. There are at least 700,000 young carers in the UK but many do not realise that they are a young carer.

We know that young carers may need a little extra support to enjoy and do well at school. At Sandwell Academy we are committed to ensuring that all students who are young carers are identified and supported effectively.

Mrs Coxley is Sandwell Academy's young carers' Designated Lead and she has the responsibility to ensure all young carers are able to enjoy school and make progress. If you think your child might be a young carer, or could be affected by any of the points that have been highlighted, then please contact her on the Academy telephone number or via email at hcoxley@sandwellacademy.com

Please note that any information that is given will be treated sensitively and no information will be shared without your knowledge.

Yours sincerely,

T Byrne

Mr T Byrne
Assistant Head for inclusion, Well-being and Equality

