St Cyprian's Greek Orthodox Primary Academy

ΠΑΝΤΑ ΙΣΧΥΩ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΕΝΔΥΝΑΜΟΥΝΤΙ ΜΕ ΧΡΙΣΤΩ ΙΝΑ ΑΡΙΣΤΕΥΩ

I AM STRONG THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

TO THE BEST THAT I CAN BE

Young Carers Policy

Revised: July 2025

Reviewed and ratified by Full Academy Trust:

Date: 17.7.25

Signed: Angeliki Christou

Name: A Christou

Position: Chair of Education Committee

Date of next review: July 2027

Our Mission Statement:
'The aim of St Cyprian's Greek Orthodox Primary Academy is to provide its children with primary education of the highest quality in a supportive learning environment through the National Curriculum in core subjects, enriched by the progressive teaching of the Greek language and Christian Orthodox religion.

The children will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and spirituality to enable them to achieve their full potential and prepare them for transition to secondary education and to contribute positively to the challenges of a diverse multicultural society.'

The term 'parents' in this policy also refers to carers.

Academy Policy for Young Carers
At St Cyprian's Primary Academy, we are committed to meeting the needs of young carers within our Academy. We will endeavour to ensure that this vulnerable group of young people are enabled and encouraged to attend and enjoy school, have equal access to their education as their peers, promoting a culture of high expectations and aspirations. This policy aims to ensure that our young carers are identified and offered appropriate interventions in order for them to access the education to which they are entitled.

Aim

- To bring the educational achievements of our young carers nearer to those of their peers.
- To ensure that the Virtual School and the young carers project are kept fully informed of the young carers progress, attendance and attainment.
- To ensure that young carers take as full a part as possible in all Academy activities, or in all aspects of Academy life.

Young Carers
A young carer is a child or young person who is responsible for caring on a regular basis for a parent or sibling who has an illness or disability; such as a physical disability, issues with ill mental health, substance misuse as well those who are terminally ill. A young carer will take on additional responsibilities to those that are deemed appropriate for their age and development, and will often be providing the main care for a family member as well as sharing responsibility with another family member. These tasks will often include domestic activities, household and financial management and personal and emotional care, and because of these additional responsibilities a young carer may regularly experience poor attendance or lateness, under achievement, anxiety, tiredness, behaviour problems, difficulties in completing home learning and often bullying.

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to:

- Identify a young carers representative who has special responsibility for young carers within school; including maintaining a register and ensuring that all pupils, staff and families are aware of who they are to enable them to access support if needed.
- Ensure that all staff receive relevant training and are aware of their responsibilities under this policy.
- Ensure the Academy uses the Pupil Premium Grant to minimise any barriers to education and learning experienced by eligible young carers to improve their wellbeing, attainment and attendance.

- Ensure the Academy keeps up to date with national and local developments and with legislation and guidance effecting young carers and their families.
- Ensure the Academy uses the curriculum to promote a full understanding, acceptance of, and respect for issues such as caring, disability and impairment.
- Ensure the Academy is accessible and welcoming to parents with disabilities and illness, offering additional support to enable them to attend parents' evenings or other Academy events, and that home visits are considered where appropriate.
- Ensure the Academy offers support to the young carer and their family during the transition process, sharing agreed information with their new school lead for young carers and their families.
- Ensure the Academy will identify young carers at risk of falling into the NEET (Not Education, Employment or Training) category and take appropriate actions to address this
- Ensure that there is flexible communication between home, Virtual School and the young carers project.

Responsibilities of the Young Carers Representative

Name of young carers representative: Angelina Adrien

The young carers representative will:

- Ensure all young carers are supported sensitively and that confidentiality is maintained as well as respecting their right to privacy and only sharing information about the young carer and their family with other staff on a need to know basis.
- Make referrals to young carers project and other relevant support services.
- Work in partnership with Croydon Virtual School to provide progress data as requested.

Confidentiality

Information on young carers will be shared with Academy staff on a "need to know basis". The young carers representative will discuss what information is shared and with which staff with the family. Once this has been agreed, complete confidentiality is to be maintained.

Training

The Head Teacher and young carers representative will be responsible for ensuring all staff are briefed on the regulations and practice outlined in this policy.

Further Information

Support for young carers is provided by Croydon Virtual School and the young carers project, for further information please contact them on the following:

Jill Thorp
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Croydon Virtual Academy
Direct Line: 0208 604 7884
jill.thorp@croydon.gov.uk

Beverly Boyd
Education Support Worker
Young Carers Support Project
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