Dear parents/guardians,

At [X] we are dedicated to supporting the wellbeing of all our students.

We acknowledge that some individuals may need more support than others, especially in difficult times. Some of these students may be supporting family members or friends with their health and wellbeing. These students are known as young carers.

A young carer is a child or young person under 18 who provides, or intends to provide support to another person who:

* Has a long-term health condition
* Has an additional need or disability
* Has a mental health condition
* Has a drug or alcohol dependency
* Requires extra help as they grow older.

They do not necessarily have to be living in the same home as the person needing support.

We want to ensure that young carers at our school are identified and get the recognition and support they deserve, helping them to thrive.

We are aware of some young carers in our school already, but we know there are likely to be many more whom we are not yet aware of.

We are encouraging parents and guardians to let us know if their child is a young carer, and we also invite students themselves to come forward and talk to us about their caring role. We can then work together to explore ways in which we can support them. You can let us know by returning the slip on the following page, or by contacting [INSERT NAME OF YOUNG CARER LEAD] by email/dojo/etc [INSERT DIRECT CONTACT INFORMATION].

Young carers, parent carers and carers of adults can receive direct support from local charity The Carers’ Centre. Through them, unpaid carers can access free wellbeing activities, access to a dedicated Support Team, aswell and information and advice.

You can register with The Carers’ Centre by [completing a self-referral](https://banescarerscentre.org.uk/for-professionals/young-carer-referral-form/) or by asking [INSERT YOUNG CARERS LEAD] to refer on your behalf.

Yours sincerely,

[INSERT NAME OF YOUNG CARER LEAD]

**Reply slip**

**I would like to inform the school that my child is a young carer**.

Pupil’s name:

Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish, you can give further details of their caring role here: (please note this is not essential)

Would you like the school to complete a referral to The Carers’ Centre for further support?  Please circle as applicable.

**Yes** **No**

**Signed**

Print name:

Signature: