



## Grange Junior School

Grange Junior School  
Grange Drive  
Stratton St Margaret  
Swindon  
SN3 4JY

Tel: 01793 822405

[www.grange-jun.swindon.sch.uk](http://www.grange-jun.swindon.sch.uk)

14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Re: Young Carers Identifying and supporting young carers at Grange Junior School**

At Grange Junior School we are aware that some of our pupils are young carers. A young carer is someone under 18 who is caring unpaid for a family member or 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. Research suggests there are at least 700,000 young carers in the UK but many do not realise they are a young carer. The care they give may be physical and/or emotional. The responsibilities may include:

- Personal care
- Housework
- Lifting
- Shopping
- Giving Medication
- Looking after brothers and sisters
- Cheering them up
- Helping fill in forms
- Reminding them to do things

We know that young carers may need a little extra support to enjoy and do well at school. At Grange Junior School we are committed to ensuring that all pupils who are young carers are identified, recognised, supported effectively and know they have someone to speak to if they need help. We have a Young Carers Policy and we have been talking about Young Carers in schools and assemblies and PSHE lessons.

As Grange Junior School's Young Carers' Lead I have responsibility for ensuring all young carers are able to enjoy school and make good progress. If you think your child might be a young carer, or could be affected by any of the issues we've highlighted, please let me know by filling in the form attached and bringing it into school in a sealed envelope addressed to me. If you do not feel comfortable doing this, or have any further questions, please email me at [nmyatt@grange-jun.swindon.sch.uk](mailto:nmyatt@grange-jun.swindon.sch.uk) or contact me on 01793 822 405 to speak to me directly.

Any information that is given to us will be treated sensitively and no information will be shared without your knowledge.

In addition to support at school, you may also want to consider making a referral to a Swindon Carers Support Worker who will help to find the best services for the young carer. This normally takes about an hour and a Support Worker can meet in your own home or arrange an appointment at school. Once the assessment has been carried out, the Young Carers Support Worker will offer a number of choices based on the level of that assessment, that may include the following:

- Telephone, text or e-mail support
- Time out, away from home with a Young Carers Support Worker
- Activities in small groups during school holidays
- Short breaks and residential trips
- Weekly/fortnightly groups mixing with other young carers of the same age
- Referral to other projects or groups
- Possible funding for individual activities

Further information and referral forms can be found here:-  
<http://www.swindoncarers.org.uk/for-carers/young-carers/>

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mrs N Myatt  
Grange Junior School  
Young Carer Lead

# Young Carers

Child's Name ..... Class .....

Does the pupil have parents or other family members who have a long-term illness or disability, or who are affected by mental ill-health or substance misuse? <b>If you wish, you can give further details here:</b>	Yes/No
I think my child may be a Young Carer and I wish to discuss this with the Young Carer Lead	Yes/No
I believe my child is a Young Carer and I wish to discuss a referral to Swindon Young Carers	Yes/No

Name .....

Signed .....Parent/Guardian      Date .....