



## Young Carers

At Falconer's Hill Academy, we are very aware that some of our children take on caring duties at home for other family members. A young carer is someone aged 18 or under who helps look after a relative who has a condition, such as a disability, illness, mental health condition, or a drug or alcohol problem. Most young carers look after one of their parents or care for a brother or sister. They do extra jobs in and around the home, such as cooking, cleaning, or helping someone to get dressed and move around.

The school has a designated Young Carers' School Lead with responsibility for young carers and their families. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) Lead for the school is Mr. Hamblin, and the Operational Lead is the schools Learning Mentor- Mrs. Whittle. The Lead Governor for Young Carers at Falconer's Hill Academy is Mr. James Woodcock.

We work closely with the Northamptonshire Young Carers Service and other relevant external agencies to minimise any barriers to education and learning experienced by young carers. Our staff and Governors are committed to ensuring children who are caring for others have space and support to achieve their full potential at school. For some Young Carers, school can be a place where they can forget about their caring responsibilities and feel "normal" for a while. But it can also be a place where they feel under extra pressure or where people don't understand what life is like outside school. It can sometimes be hard to juggle responsibilities as a young carer with the demands of teachers, friends and homework.

In school there is a Young Carers Message box located in the Planetarium, opportunities to talk to Mrs Whittle during morning break or lunchtimes and the last Friday of the month there is a Young Carers Group.

If you think Northamptonshire Young Carers could help a young person in your life, have a look at the link or if you have any questions or would like a referral making, either contact Mrs Whittle or contact them direct [www.northamptonshire-carers.org](http://www.northamptonshire-carers.org).