



Old Moat Community Primary School

Old Moat Lane
Withington
Manchester
M20 3FN

19th July 2022

Headteacher: Mr O. Kerr
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs V. Collier
Email: admin@oldmoat.manchester.sch.uk
Tel: 0161 445 4208

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Old Moat Primary School, We have recently set up a Young Carers group and Mrs Walsh (Family Support Worker) is our Young Carers Champion. We hold a weekly Young Carers group which is held after school for one hour once a week as well as working with the children and families in school.

A Young Carer is someone under the age of 18 who helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol. The tasks and level of caring undertaken by the young person can vary according to the nature of the illness or disability, the level and need for care, and the structure of the family as a whole. It may be that just one of the caring/supporting roles is their responsibility or it might be shared with another sibling or another parent. Young Carers often take on practical caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult such as physical, emotional or personal care, care of the home, managing the family budget, collecting prescriptions, taking someone to doctors or appointments or medication management. It could be looking after younger siblings or helping someone communicate perhaps through interpreting or sign language. This would be above and beyond the normal teenage chores around the home.

Research from the BBC in 2010 found that as many as one in 12 Primary school pupils have some level of caring responsibility. That could be as many as 2 per class at Old Moat Primary. Here at our school, we recognise the additional pressures our Young Carers face, alongside the increasing demands of the school curriculum, and are keen to ensure that they are always adequately supported to perform to the best of their ability in their school work and help them to realise their full academic potential. We have a number of Young Carers already identified to us in school who are able to benefit from our comprehensive programme of support and we value and celebrate the important contribution they make to our school community.

Therefore, if your child has any caring responsibilities at home that may fit into any of the categories outlined in this letter or if you would like your child to attend the young carers support group, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Walsh, our Young Carers' Champion in school, so that we are able to fully support your son/daughter in their role.

At Old Moat we are a community that is proud of all our students. We always champion those who do something special and we feel it is essential to be able to help and support Young Carers and their families to remove some of the additional pressures that they may be facing

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or check out the following link attached to our school on help and Manchester.

<https://hsm.manchester.gov.uk/kb5/manchester/directory/service.page?id=Ue48fSbYhuE&directorychannel=3-3-7-1>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Walsh
Family Support Worker

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. J. Ashcroft



