



# Devizes School & Sixth Form College

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Re: Young Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

A young carer is a young person aged 5 – 18 years, who looks after someone who couldn't manage without their help. This could mean looking after a parent, brother or sister, grandparent or family friend who has a disability, illness, mental health condition or addiction.

As many as one in 12 pupils could be a young carer, and unless the school is advised about a pupil's home circumstances, young carers risk first being identified by negative aspects of their behaviour or work. Some young carers worry about bullying and may be tired, worried, find it difficult to concentrate and have limited time for friendships and activities after school. If this is the case, we can help.

Did you know Devizes School can provide extra help for young carers? By offering for example, extra help with homework, flexibility around calling home, advice about how to get your child into school where transport may be an issue, a teacher to talk to and alternatives to after school activities.

Devizes School can also provide advice on benefits, local support groups and more.

Do you think you have a Young Carer in your household?  
If so – Contact Miss Tilley ([ltilley@devizes.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ltilley@devizes.wilts.sch.uk)) or Mrs Macphee ([jmacphee@devizes.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:jmacphee@devizes.wilts.sch.uk)) who can support with referrals to Wiltshire Council.

Wiltshire Council's Team carry out assessments of young people who care for someone else. Anyone who thinks a child could be a young carer can also self-refer into Wiltshire Council for a young carers' assessment. Children and parents can self-refer on 0300 456 0108 or email: [mash@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:mash@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Once the referral is received, it will be allocated to a member of the Wiltshire Council Team, who will contact the family and arrange a visit. The assessment is holistic and will look at what support can be offered to the family.

Yours sincerely

Laura Tilley