



At Moorlands Schools Federation we are committed to the wellbeing of all our children and as part of this we are currently working internally and with BANES Young Carers Service to identify and access support for the children who fall into the category of young carer. In meeting the needs of young carers, we are seeking to support them so they can attend and enjoy school in the same way as other pupils and be given every chance and opportunity to fulfil their potential. Liz Hebditch is our Designated SLT Young Carers Lead and Zoe Thompson is our designated Young Carers School Operational Lead, with responsibility for young carers sessions and communication with their families.

What is a young carer?

A young carer is a person under 18 who provides, or intends to provide, care for another person who is ill, disabled, has a mental health condition, or addiction problem. Young carers may do extra jobs in and around the home, such as cooking, cleaning or helping someone get dressed and move around. Along with doing things to help relatives, young carers may be giving emotional support, too. If a sibling is ill or disabled, young carers may not be able to access the same opportunities as children who do not have a caring responsibilities, such as play dates or extra-curricular activities.

Signs a young carer may need support:

- Withdrawn/distracted
- Tired
- Lacking social skills
- Having behavioural issues
- Being bullied
- No interest in clubs or extra-curricular activities

This is not an exhaustive list, and children may benefit from extra support regardless of whether they fall into any of these categories.

As a school we offer 1:1 check-in sessions and lunchtime clubs for young carers. We can also make referrals to BANES Young Carers to help families access support outside of school. If you believe your child is a young carer and we are not yet aware, or if you would like any further information, please do get in touch by emailing Zoe Thompson - **zthompson@moorlands-school.com**

Further information:

If you would like to read more about young carers and the support and services available please take a look at the following websites.

<https://youngcarersinschools.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/infographic.png>

<https://www.banescarerscentre.org.uk/youngcarers/>

<https://carers.org/>

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/information/young-people/young-carers>