

Identifying and supporting young carers at Montpelier

Dear parents

At Montpelier Primary 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.

A young carer can find helping someone very rewarding and it may help them to develop positive life skills. These children have the right to be looked after and may need a little extra support to enjoy and do well at school. At Montpelier Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils who are young carers are identified, and supported effectively. Our aim is to run a lunchtime group for identified young carers to provide them with an opportunity to have fun in a relaxed environment and meet other young carers with similar experiences.

As a school, we feel it is important that everyone has a positive understanding of the role of a young carer and to support this we will be leading assemblies about young carers. The KS1 assembly will be on Monday 29th April and KS2 on Tuesday 30th April. Both assemblies will be followed by a drop-in session where children can come to talk and ask any questions.

If you think your child might be a young carer, or could be affected by any of the issues we have highlighted, please let us know by filling in the form below and bringing it into school in a sealed envelope addressed to either of us. If you do not feel comfortable doing this, or have any further questions, please contact us on youngcarers@mpsplymouth.net or call on 01752 216160 to speak directly.

Yours sincerely

Jane Gilbert and Sarah Green

FAO: Jane Gilbert or Sarah Green

I think my child may be a young carer and I would like to discuss this with you.

Your child's name: _____

Class: _____

If you wish, you can give further details here:

Please provide a name and telephone number or email address so that we can contact you.