



Lockyer's Middle School
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Deputy Headteacher: Ms Fiona Locke BSc (Hons) PGCE

September 2023

Dear Parent, Guardian or Carer

We are delighted to announce that we are continuing to work in partnership with MYTIME Young Carers Charity this academic year to support the remarkable young carers within our school community. MYTIME Young Carers began working with schools in 2019, and they currently work in more than 100 schools across Dorset and BCP.

MYTIME Young Carers are driven to raise the awareness of young carers in society, strive to provide varied support to all young people carrying out a caring role at home, regardless of the nature of their role, and continue to ensure that they have the support they need in life to succeed and fulfil their full potential, both academically and personally.

Who are Young Carers?

A young carer is a child, under the age of 18, as young as 4, who **provides, or intends to provide, care for another person in their family. Young carers could provide care for their parent, both parents, a brother, sister or grandparent.** There are many reasons young people are caring:

- Long-term illness or health condition, such as epilepsy, cancer or diabetes
- Physical disability, such as mobility issues or blindness
- Mental health condition or illness
- Misuses substances e.g. alcohol or drugs
- Dependent on others due to old age
- Special educational needs
- Supporting siblings due to the need of others

There isn't a definitive list of the jobs which Young Carers carry out at home, but they can be carrying out many of the following:

- Helping someone get dressed and prepared for the day
- Cooking meals, preparing breakfast and lunch and shopping
- Carrying out housework or practical tasks because others cannot
- Providing personal care
- Collecting benefits and prescriptions and administering medicine or pills
- Accompanying someone to appointments or taking siblings to and from school





- Taking responsibility for a sibling or siblings
- Translating, interpreting or communicating for someone
- Managing the family's budget
- Providing emotional support

MYTIME offer a range of programmes which young carers at Lockyer's can access through our partnership. Young carers will be able to access online youth groups, activity days and enrichment opportunities from their dedicated team. To register for MYTIME opportunities and support, go on the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/7U3UuRHJp>

MYTIME is working with our dedicated Young Carer Champion, Mrs Pugh, to develop our support within school. One exciting development in school is that Mrs Pugh is running a **monthly** Young Carers Group from 2-3pm. This offers the opportunity for students identified as young carers to feel supported, make friends and have some fun.

If you believe your child is a young carer and would like them to be part of this school community group, then please contact the school office or speak to Mrs Pugh.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K. Whittaker

Lead practitioner for success and wellbeing