Working with young carers: a model

PHASE 1: Identification and assessment

Awareness of a pupil being a young carer through enrolment information, parents, self-identification, or indicators.

- Use of questionnaire and checklists for information gathering
- Use of CAF
- Speaking with parents

If appropriate, initiate child protection and safeguarding procedures.

PHASE 2: Establishing involvement of staff and other professionals

- School lead/personal tutor
- Team around the child (TAC)
- Lead professional

PHASE 3: Support

- Use a multi-agency joint approach, for example with a young carers' service, counselling service, education welfare, educational psychology or Connexions service.

Support for the whole family

Referral for whole family assessment to consider parent/family needs, including parenting support needs.

Consider, for example:

- Parent support advisers
- Adult services
- Health services
- Carers' services
- Respite care for the family

Set up support systems

- Personalised plan
- Homework/exam support
- Peer support group
- After school clubs
- Telephone home
- Staff to talk to/counselling
- Young carer card
- Emergency or crisis plan
- Transport support

Support with transition to secondary school/college/university.

Be mindful that pupils' and family's situations may change rapidly. Ongoing formal and informal monitoring is therefore important. It may be necessary to re-visit any of the above parts.

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