**Dear Head Teacher**

**Carers Week 2021 and Slough’s “myth busting” campaign**

National Carers Week is taking is place between 7-13th June and the theme for this year is ‘*Making Carers visible and valued*’.

Local partners have come together through the Slough Carers Partnership to plan an extensive program of activities for carers and young carers which will be a mixture of virtual and face to face meetings.

Slough Carers Partnership has also recently refreshed the carers information leaflet which is also attached. Again, you may want to share this with families.

The Slough Carers Partnership has developed a local plan for the next 12 months to identify and raise awareness of unpaid carers, including young carers and parent carers of a disabled child. We all recognise the additional challenges faced by carers during the Covid 19 pandemic and the plan focuses support on four areas; promoting carer wellbeing, person centered support, integration/ partnership working and identify needs.

As part of this work we are launching a local ‘myth busting’ campaign in Carer Week to help with the identification of carers and ensure that they know where to access important information and support when they need it. The campaign helps dispel some of the commonly held misconceptions about being a carer and young carer. We know from speaking with young carers the importance they place on schools in helping support them and signpost to local support services. We are therefore also asking for your support in helping with the campaign by promoting this within your school by displaying the posters.

If you and staff would like to meet to discuss other ways in which we can support you we would be very happy to arrange this. You can contact us directly:

Kiran B’Desha- Senior Young Carers Officer- **01753 476589** (Early Help Hub) youngcarers@slough.gov.uk

Andalina Kolsawala- Targeted Young Peoples Service Manager- **01753-476589**

Aliya Chaudhri aliya@sloughyoungcarers.org

[**www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk**](http://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk/) **Family Information Service**

Thank you for your support with our local campaign.