

SGI/LF

27<sup>th</sup> February, 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

I am very sad to inform you that one of our year 10 students tragically died last week. This shocking event has affected the whole school community and our thoughts and sympathies are with her family at this terrible time.

We are aware as a school that people can be affected by such events in different ways and appreciate that there will be both staff and students in need of support and guidance. The expression of feelings resulting from bereavement is an essential part of the grieving process and support is already in place to assist pupils with this. Young people affected by bereavement will need the opportunity to discuss events and ask questions and also have the time and space to come to terms with their thoughts and emotions.

We have held assemblies with all of year 7 and 10 students today and explained to them that they can talk to staff and share their feelings, as necessary. In addition, Reverend Keith Teasdale will visit the school on Wednesday afternoon to offer his support and guidance at this difficult time.

Further advice on helping young people to cope with loss is available through the following agencies:

School Nurses Confidential Advice and Support Line	07480635458	
Child Bereavement UK	0800 138 1619	<a href="http://www.childbereavementuk.org">www.childbereavementuk.org</a>
Mindline Cumbria	0300 561 0000	<a href="http://www.mindlinecumbria.org">www.mindlinecumbria.org</a>
Samaritans 24hr Confidential and Emotional Support Line:	116 123	<a href="http://www.samaritans.org">www.samaritans.org</a>
Samaritans Carlisle	01228 544444	

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further help or support.

Yours faithfully



**Stephen Gilby**  
Principal