



TFO/AT

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the death of a much-loved Year 11 student and member of our school community who died on Wednesday.

She was an incredibly popular member of the College who was a bright, caring and thoughtful young lady who was always seen with a smile on her face. She will be hugely missed by everybody at the school and within our community. All our thoughts are with her family and friends at this time, and I know yours will be too.

I know this news will be extremely upsetting, and many staff and students may experience feelings such as anger, confusion and deep sadness, as is so often the case when someone dies. It may be likely that children will want to ask questions about death, and it is our view that these should be answered factually and honestly. The family have requested that we ask that you respect their privacy and do not engage in rumour and speculation.

Students have been informed of this news today, as it is important they hear directly from members of staff who can support them. Our staff will try to answer any questions they have, and you may also wish to talk to your child about their understanding and feelings at this time.

Support for those who feel they need it will be available at school, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Palmer, Vice Principal on b.palmer@tavistockcollege.org

We have arranged for a book or condolence for students, parents and staff to sign and in due course we will plan a long lasting and fitting memorial.

I know that at this incredibly difficult time we will all pull together, as the tight knit community that we are, to remember and keep her and her loved ones in our thoughts. She will always remain an integral member of our school community. The following websites have useful information to help you understand grief and where to get further support should you need it.

- <u>www.childbereavementnetwork.org.uk</u>
- www.youngminds.org.uk
- <u>www.jeremiahsjourney.org.uk</u>

Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Tristan Muller-Forster Principal

3rd March 2022