



Together in the Pursuit of Excellence
23 January 2025

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Dear Parents and Carers of students in Year 9,

We are very sorry to have to share the tragic news that a Year 13 student at our school has very sadly passed away. This has very much come as a shock to our school, and I know that this news will be extremely upsetting for our community.

As a school, we are doing everything we can to support our community during this incredibly difficult time. Out of respect for the family as they start to come to terms with the loss and inform loved ones, we are unable to provide further details at this time and kindly ask that you respect their privacy during this exceptionally challenging time, as I know you will.

In light of this tragedy, we are rearranging the Year 9 options evening, which had been scheduled for this evening. This will now be held on **Thursday 30th January 17.00-19.00pm**. We have also cancelled all after school clubs and events today and tomorrow.

As I am sure you can appreciate, this terrible news has deeply affected our entire school community and we are working together to ensure that we are providing the support our students need.

Every single student at Congleton High School is a valued and cared for member of our community. To lose a member of our community is of course deeply distressing, especially for those close to the student. We are providing support to students through our dedicated pastoral staff and the educational psychologist team from the Local Authority.

Detached youth workers will be offering support and space to meet for young people up to age 19 (or 25 with SEND) on Thursday and Friday this week from 6pm – 9pm on the Youth Outreach Bus parked on the car park next to Congleton Market Quarter and detached in the surrounding town area. Youth workers can be easily identified by their blue hoody / jackets and Cheshire East lanyards.

Our support is very much available for all members of our community. Please do reach out if you have any concerns regarding your child, or if you or they may need further support. For additional support, there are also a number of organisations that provide bereavement resources to children such as Child Bereavement UK at childbereavementuk.org or ChildLine, which can be reached on 0800 1111 or at childline.org.uk.

Congleton High School and Sixth Form College is characterised by courage and care. Our whole community will support each other through this immensely difficult time and mourn this sad loss together.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours faithfully

Heidi Thurland
Headteacher