



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY
SAMWORTH ACADEMY

Tuesday 5th November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the unexpected death of one of our students over the weekend. As you can appreciate this has affected everybody at NUSA deeply, and I wanted to reassure you that as a community we will do everything we can to support your child.

Our thoughts are with the student's family and friends and at this difficult time we would request that their privacy is respected. In particular we have asked our students not to discuss this matter on social media.

All year groups have been informed of this sad news in a series of talks led by myself and the Senior Leadership Team and tutors over the course of the day. Peers closest to the student have had the support of staff throughout the day. Staff have been available to provide guidance and welfare to the whole school community including staff. We will ensure that this support is available throughout the week and beyond as required.

Today and over the coming weeks, you may be concerned about your child's reaction to this news. These reactions can be part of the normal grieving process and many students may wish to talk to their family about their feelings.

Two important messages we have given all of our students is that all of us can seek help from others and that young people should talk to an adult if they are worried about a friend's well-being following this event. If your son/daughter has existing support from a mental health professional then you should ensure this information is passed on to them.

In addition to the in-school support, a number of support mechanisms are available for you and your child should you require these, and they include:

Cruse (bereavement counselling service): <https://www.cruse.org.uk/get-help/local-services/east-midlands/nottinghamshire>

Kooth (school counselling service): <https://xenzone.com/>

Samaritans: <https://www.samaritans.org/>

NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/coping-with-bereavement/>

School staff are also available to talk to students at any time and we will continue to offer support as long as required.

The whole school community, myself, staff and students are deeply saddened by this news and we offer our thoughts and prayers to family and friends.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'E. Howard', written in a dark grey or black ink.

Emma Howard
Head of School