

18th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the week draws to a close, I write with a further update following last week's incident.

Students and staff have continued to receive support over the course of this week as detailed in my previous letter. This will continue into next week. For students there will be:

- Sessions with an educational psychologist for specific students
- Drop in session with Barnados for students who need this support
- Supervised 'mindful colouring' sessions in the library at social times for students who would like to access this. These sessions are led by our sixth form wellbeing team.

Support for staff continues as it has this week.

The independent investigation into health and safety at the academy took place earlier this week and we expect the report to be with us next week. The investigator's initial feedback following her site visit was that the physical environment of the academy is safe and that this incident could not have been prevented. That does not mean, however, that we should not consider changes to the building to make it even safer still.

One thing that we might consider, is raising the height of the walls around the void areas. We are currently seeking advice from builders and architects on what might be possible with regards to this. Once I have more detail, we will launch a consultation so that everyone who wants to, can have a look at the options available to us and express their opinion on the best way forward. I will confirm the dates of this consultation as soon as I can.

As you will have seen from Miss Relph's letter, Every Life Matters is holding a session for parents and carers on mental wellbeing at the academy on Monday 21st November at 5.00pm. Please do let us know if you would like to attend this by completing the Google form here: <https://forms.gle/EJ6qdcvzLWjaZxpk8> .

I hope you and your family have a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully



Abby Deeks
Principal

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