



Penwortham Girls' High School

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Headteacher: Mrs Karen Pomeroy B.A.(Hons), P.G.C.E. NPQH

19th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with great sadness that we have to inform you of the sudden and unexpected death of one of our students, Zaynab Bhula.

As yet the circumstances of Zaynab's death have not been confirmed. If it is the wish of the family, we will provide more relevant and accurate information.

We are fully aware that those girls who were close to Zaynab have been seriously affected by this tragedy and we are doing everything we can to ensure that both these students and the wider community are supported at this challenging time.

As difficult as it is, we are trying to maintain normality at school in order to minimise the emotional impact on our pupils and staff.

Inevitably, our community will want to celebrate and commemorate Zaynab's life and time at our school. However, it is too early to make any further arrangements until we have spoken with Zaynab's family and friends.

In these tragic circumstances, it is natural to seek answers to questions but what we would not want to do is to allow speculation to become an issue. Most of our girls use technology responsibly and social networking sites can be a source of comfort for some or alternatively, upsetting and damaging for others. It is important that the girls remember that comments made online are often public.

Whilst we are doing our utmost in school to support your daughter, should you have concerns about her emotional health and wellbeing, we suggest you contact your General Practitioner (GP) for further advice.

If you feel you also wish to speak to someone or access help in supporting your daughter further, you can find online support, for example via www.childbereavement.org.uk or through local or national organisations such as Childline or NSPCC.

I hope you will ensure that, if at all possible, your daughter continues to come to school. It is important for us, as a school community, to support each other through this terrible experience and for the girls to feel secure in their routines and school friendships.



Our thoughts are with Zaynab's family.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Pomeroy', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Mrs K Pomeroy
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lorimer Russell-Hayes', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lorimer Russell-Hayes
Chair of Governors