



18 July 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to you with some sad news about a member of our school community. Unfortunately, one of our Year 12 students, died yesterday after an accident in the holidays. Our thoughts are with the student's family and friends at this time.

Our school will be concentrating on supporting our students and staff over this difficult time. This means, among other things, returning the school to normal routines as soon as possible and recognising that students can be affected by this event for many months to come. If your child is already using the services of a mental health professional, you should ensure this information is passed on to them.

Today and over the coming weeks, you may be concerned about your child's reaction or expression of feelings about this news. These reactions and feelings may be part of the grieving process. I encourage you to let your child know that you are aware of this accident and that you will listen to their concerns at any time they wish to share them. Staying connected and engaged with your child is one of the best ways to support them. Support rooms have been established in the administration block for students so they can access our Guidance Officers.

Please feel free to contact the Guidance Officers for information about the school's support plan or if you have any concerns about your child. This is an important way of ensuring you receive consistent and accurate information and for us to be aware of all parent concerns.

If your child would like any external support you can access the following organisations that can support young people with sadness:

- Headspace, www.headspace.org.au phone number: 3249 2222
- Beyond Blue, www.beyondblue.org.au phone number: 1300 22 4636
- The Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement, www.grief.org.au phone number: 1800 642 066
- Parentline, www.parentline.com.au phone number: 1300 30 1300
- Parenting Website, www.raisingchildren.net
- Kids Helpline, www.kidshelpline.com.au phone number: 1800 551800

These organisations provide information and advice on how to support young people post grief and loss.

Yours sincerely

Ross Robertson
Principal

