

Mildenhall College Academy

The Hub, Sheldrick Way, Mildenhall, Suffolk. IP28 7JX

Tel: 01638 714645

Email: reception@mca.ATTrust.org.uk

Principal: Miss N Hood BEd (hons)



Mildenhall College
A C A D E M Y

Dear Parent/Carer

After the tragic passing of one of our students, Delia, on 10th January 2022 we came together as a community to mourn her loss. At the time we created a flower memorial with pictures, teddy bears and other symbolic gestures to remember Delia. In the immediate aftermath of the news the school nursing team were in the academy to support students and staff in coming to terms with the grief and loss that was felt. As well as exploring the issues of grief, loss and bereavement in tutor time and as part of the planned curriculum in Skills for Life, Newmarket Youth for Christ also came in and students and staff were able to write messages to go on the memory tree.

Whilst the flowers are no longer in place we continue to have a memorial so that students and staff have a place to pause and remember Delia. Overtime the memorial garden from the Bury Road site will be established in our new home and a tree and memorial plaque will be put in place.

Grief and bereavement affect each person differently and staff and students continue to be offered support through the school nursing team and bereavement counsellors as well as through our strong sense of community. The need or desire for support is not always realised in the immediate aftermath of a tragedy and for this reason I would urge you to contact us at any time should you feel your child needs support. There are also links to advice and guidance on our website with links to bereavement and support agencies.

Delia will be laid to rest on Friday and we will mark this occasion with a moment of pause across the academy and by the laying of flowers in the academy as well as at her grave. Students and staff have come together and over the course of this year there will be sporting and musical events to not only remember Delia but also to raise money for mental health charities. We have also applied for Delia's honorary GCSE results that her family will collect on the Year 11 Results Day.

Whilst life will inevitably move on, Delia's contribution to MCA and her memory will forever be a part of the academy and the lives of those who knew her.

Finally, I would like to reiterate the availability of support for all staff and students now and in the future.

Best wishes

Miss Hood

#TransformingLives

