

Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Parents

Everyone at Transforming Lives Educational Trust is greatly saddened to learn of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Her tireless service to our country – from her early days as a dutiful young monarch to her later years as one of the world's longest and most eminent serving heads of state – makes her a source of admiration in all our schools.

We would like to express our sincere condolences; our thoughts are with her family at this difficult time.

There will be a ten-day period of national mourning, and as you would expect, our schools will participate appropriately in aspects of these. Schools will be open as usual during this time. As is fitting with a period of national mourning, our schools will limit communication, including on social media platforms, to essential information only.

Schools may also decide to postpone some events or activities during this time and will keep you informed of any changes. It is possible there may also be a bank holiday announced for the day of her funeral and we will notify you if this is confirmed.

In the meantime, our schools remain open, and our staff will be providing support to our children, young people and to each other at this sad time. Special assemblies and class/tutor time today will focus on helping everyone understand this unprecedented time in our nation's history and, during this time of mourning and beyond, regular time will be dedicated throughout the school day to support our Trust family as we all come to terms with such sad news.

We appreciate that your child/ren may be asking lots of questions, and that it can be challenging to know how best to support them through a time of grief. You may find the following websites of some use:

Winston's Wish - https://www.winstonswish.org

Child Bereavement UK - https://www.childbereavementuk.org

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As a 14-year-old princess, Queen Elizabeth II addressed the children of the Commonwealth saying, "And when peace comes, remember it will be for us, the children of today, to make the world of tomorrow a better and happier place."

I hope that we can all find some comfort in these words.

Kind regards,

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James Higham | Chief Executive Officer

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