August 2022

Re: Student death

Dear Parents, carers and students.

We hope you and your family are enjoying the summer and staying safe whilst out of school. We are devastated to have to share the tragic news that a Bishopton student has died in a road traffic accident on Saturday 30th July.

On the morning of Saturday 30th July 15-year-old Connor Thompson was tragically killed in a road traffic accident on Junction Road in Stockton. Our deepest sympathies and condolences go to Connor’s family, friends and all who knew him.

Connor had been on roll at Bishopton PRU since 2019. Whilst at Bishopton PRU, Connor demonstrated his love of learning outside the classroom through his engagement with outdoor learning opportunities during his first year. As he prepared to go into his final year of school, Connor was a well-known student, who had a keen interest vocational learning areas such as motor vehicle mechanics and welding.

His death is a shocking tragedy that has impacted the community deeply across Bishopton PRU, amongst staff and his peers and, we know, across the wider community of Stockton-on-Tees.

The investigation into this horrific incident is ongoing and staff at Bishopton are working tirelessly to support the police and other services to understand what could have been done to prevent this from happening.

We will provide a range of support for staff and students who have been impacted by this incident and will continue to ensure that we support when people need it. We also know that our school community is linked closely to other schools and educational provisions and therefore, it is possible that there are other students who have been impacted by this that we do not know about.

If you or your child is concerned or feeling that they need some more support following the incident, please contact the Co-Headteachers and Mental Health Lead via the school email or school Facebook and/or Twitter page.

Finally, if you have any wider concerns about your child or are worried about them at all being at risk in their local community or beyond then please contact Stockton’s Children’s HUB and speak to trained staff who can signpost and support, so we can ensure our students remain safe.

**Children’s HUB**

Telephone: 01642 130080

Email: [childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Out of hours team**

Telephone: 01642 524552

Yours sincerely.

Emily Carr, Rachel Campbell

Bishopton PRU

Tees Valley Collaborative Trust