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**[www.ivybridgeprimaryschool.net](http://www.ivybridgeprimaryschool.net)**  
**Headteacher: Ms Caroline McKay**

25<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will all, I am sure be aware of the tragic incident that took place on the estate on Tuesday afternoon which resulted in the death of a young man. We understand that a number of you and your children may have witnessed aspects of this or that you may have heard about the incident from others. We suggested that you should talk to your children to find out what they may have seen or heard; if you think that they have any information which may be helpful to the investigation of the incident then this should be passed to the police.

We are also aware that some people may have images of the incident recorded on their phones; we would ask that you do not share these images on social media or forward them to anyone else. Again, if you feel that you have anything that may support the investigation please do contact the police.

We appreciate that this is a difficult subject to address with children. The children in school have obviously been speaking about this and, having taken advice from our Educational Psychologists, our response will be that we are aware of the incident that someone has died and that is very sad. We do not know exactly what happened or why and we may never know because that is personal to the young man who died and his family.

Please be aware that children do not respond in the same way as adults to these incidents; some may appear to show no reaction at all, others may be withdrawn or tearful, others may act out or ask a lot of questions; any of these responses would be completely normal in this situation. If your child is in anyway traumatised just speak to them and reassure them, it is OK to feel sad or upset, share that this is how you feel too. Make them aware that they can talk to adults in school too if they would like to.

There are a number of organisations who are able to provide support and these are listed below.

Samaritans – 0845 790 9090 [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

Cruse Bereavement Care 0844 477 940 [www.cruse.org.uk](http://www.cruse.org.uk)

Winstons Wish [www.winstonswish.org](http://www.winstonswish.org) 0845 203 0405

Childline 0800 1111 [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

SOBS (Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide) [www.uk-sobs.org.uk](http://www.uk-sobs.org.uk)

National Helpline 0844 561 6855

If we can be of help in any way please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Kind Regards,

Caroline McKay (Headteacher)