

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

Dear Student, Parent, Carer

### Bereavement in our school community

It is with extreme sadness that I must write to you to let you know that one of our students in Year 10, Rebecca Smith, died yesterday afternoon. We have been in contact with Rebecca's mum today and it is with her agreement that I am sharing this very sad news with you; mum has chosen this photograph for me to share with you.

Rebecca suffered a cardiac arrest on Saturday; something that is extremely rare in young people. She was airlifted to the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham where she was in intensive care until she passed away.

I know that this will come as a terrible shock to every member of the Paulet family and that everyone will be extremely upset. Rebecca was a real character around school and had many good friends.

On a personal note, I will always remember the conversations I had with Rebecca, around school, where I was keeping a serious face on the outside whilst smiling, sometimes laughing, inside at the things she was saying to me.

The school has been liaising with the Local Authority and several bereavement charities and we have updated our 'Grief and Loss' page on our website. Please visit it for help and support should you or your child need to. We remain available to offer support by telephone or email – just ask.

Website: [www.paulet.co.uk/grief-and-loss/](http://www.paulet.co.uk/grief-and-loss/)

In due course we will set up an online book of condolence and invite people to send in memories of Rebecca. When the current restrictions end we will commemorate Rebecca's life together as a school community. Until then I ask you all to think about Rebecca, her family and our whole community at this difficult time.

Kind Regards



Ian McArthur  
Headteacher

