



RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rhodes Avenue, Wood Green, London
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Headteacher: Adrian Hall

Dear Rhodes Avenue School Community,

The school will be open tomorrow, Thursday 16th February, as a place for the community to gather, support one another and pay their respects following the untimely and tragic death of our Head Teacher, Adrian Hall. We are aware that lots of families will be away for the half term break but the school headship team felt it was important to create a space for people to come together in the wake of such sad and shocking news.

The arrangements for Thursday 16th February are as follows:

- The school will be open between 10am-3pm. Please feel free to drop in at any time within the opening hours.
- Please enter from the main entrance on Rhodes Avenue and follow the signage to the sports hall.
- There will be a book of condolence available to sign, an activity for children to write messages and a cosy corner with books and leaflets about grief for parents and children.
- There will be trained counsellors on hand from the school and from the local authority who will be able to chat to parents and offer advice on dealing with grief.
- Tea, coffee and squash will be available.

Resources and websites for support

Winston's Wish – giving hope to grieving children: <https://www.winstonswish.org/>

Grief Encounter – supporting bereaved children and young people:

<https://www.griefencounter.org.uk/>

Cruse Bereavement Support: <https://www.cruse.org.uk/get-support/helpline/>

Child Bereavement UK: <https://www.childbereavementuk.org/supporting-bereaved-children-and-young-people>

Returning to school

Further information will follow regarding the arrangements for next week but please be advised that **school will be opening on Monday 20th February**. Guidance from professionals advise that a sense of normality and routine is important to help children feel secure in times of trauma. However, we also recognise that some children might find Monday extremely difficult so please use your best judgement as parents on this.

Thank you so much to the community for your heartfelt messages of support for Adrian's family and for the school staff and children. It is a comfort to all of us to be reminded of the ways in which he touched the lives of so many and to know how much of a leader, an inspiration and a friend he was to an extraordinary amount of people. Your support is much appreciated during this difficult time.

With best wishes,

Fiona Doyle and Helen Walsh

Co-Chairs of Governors, Rhodes Avenue Primary School

