

10<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am deeply sorry to have to inform you about the very sad death of Lesley Gregory, our much loved, valued and deeply committed colleague. Lesley was a highly regarded and respected member of our staff who meant a great deal to many of us at Aspire. Lesley was our shining ray of sunshine on a dull day; full of energy, compassion and care. She had the most infectious laugh, a massive heart and gave her time unconditionally to those who needed it, she will always be in our hearts and thoughts.

Lesley dedicated her whole career to supporting young people and was one of our longest serving members of staff, she was loved, valued and treasured by staff and pupils both past and present. Lesley had a deep rooted passion for working with our Aspire pupils and families, it meant a great deal to her to see the positive improvements our young people could make when supported with the endless positive regard she always extended. Lesley was an inspiration to us all and leaves a legacy of pure kindness – we could always benefit from being a bit more like Lesley. Our thoughts are with her daughter, partner and grandchildren whom she adored at this very sad time. Lesley was recently diagnosed with cancer and died on the night of April 4<sup>th</sup>.

We have been working closely with advisors from the Local Authority who support the school and we will continue to do so. We are writing to share this news so that you have the time to speak to your child before they return from the Easter Break. We will be offering support to the children in school, as and when required, seeking advice from School Nursing and Educational Psychology as appropriate.

We acknowledge that the death of someone can raise a variety of feelings for children. And children will react differently to the news. There is no right way to respond to the news of a person's death. Please be vigilant to any change in your child's emotions and behaviour and, if you are worried, do not hesitate to contact us. In addition to any support we are able to offer, the following services (see below) are available at a local and national level to support you as parents, carers and children.

I would like to thank you for your support to our school family at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely



**Lee Morrith**  
**Headteacher**

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**Rotherham Aspire**

[www.rotherhamaspire.org](http://www.rotherhamaspire.org)

[Email office@rotherhamaspire.org](mailto:Email office@rotherhamaspire.org)

Hutton Park Vocational Centre Old Doncaster Road Off Fitzwilliam Road Rotherham S65 1SL Tel 01709 794838

Rawmarsh SEMH Centre New Street Rawmarsh Rotherham S62 5AF Tel 01709 710144

Catcliffe SEMH Centre Rotherham Road Catcliffe Rotherham S60 5SW Tel 01709 834390

## *Helpful Contact Details*

### *Local*

- *Rotherham Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) CAMHS Duty team (Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm) can be contacted on 01709 304808 CAMHS out of hours for emergencies access via A&E Please note the services are shut on public bank holidays but the out of hours service continues to operate.*

- [www.mymindmatters.org.uk](http://www.mymindmatters.org.uk)

### *National*

- *Childline Telephone free on 0800 1111 or visit the website [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)*

- *Winston's Wish Telephone 08452 03 04 05 [www.winstonswish.org.uk](http://www.winstonswish.org.uk)*