



St Aidan's National School, Brookfield, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

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Dear Parents,

You are all aware at this stage of the tragedy that has occurred in the community. We have had discussions with all of our students so that they know what has happened. School staff members have been available for students on an on-going basis today. Other support personnel including psychologists are available to advise staff. This support will continue to be available to advise staff in their support of students). There is a high level of classroom support in each room.

The death of any young person is tragic, but a violent death is even more difficult. It is hard to have to teach our children about the violence in our world and to accept that sometimes we do not have the power to prevent it. These deaths may cause a variety of reactions in your child. Some children and young people may be afraid for their own life and for the lives of those they love. Take time to listen to their fears and reassure them that what has happened is rare.

We have enclosed some additional information that may be useful during this time. The media are in the vicinity of the school and may approach you or your children. You need not respond to their questions if you are approached. We will not allow the media to interview your child at school and our general advice is that you should not let your children be interviewed. They are not mature enough to judge what to say and may say something they will regret later.

Young people frequently turn to social media to see what others are saying, or to find out more. At these times it is important that you monitor their use and engage with them about what they read. We urge you to emphasise and reinforce the need to be extremely sensitive and careful about what they post.

Our thoughts are with the family and with each of you.

Sincerely,

Tomás Hayes

Principal

Principal: Mr. Tomás Hayes

Chairperson: B.O.M. Mr. Iggy Keane