



27th July 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Today we have very sad news to share which will affect our whole academy family.

We have been informed by his family that Mr Sam Jones, our Assistant Principal, has died in tragic circumstances. This will come as a shock to everyone who knew or was taught by Sam. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this time as they begin to grieve this sad loss.

Mr Sam Jones was with the school from the very start and led on the move to our new building. He believed passionately in the students and the Academy. We will do all we can to continue to make Oasis Academy Leesbrook the place he was so proud to work in.

Experiencing the death of someone we know and love at any time is one of the hardest things we will have to work through. When someone dies, we may experience many different feelings and emotions including anger, anxiety or sadness. Some students will be feeling shocked and upset and others may be confused or numb. It is important that the students know that these reactions are a normal response to loss and are part of the grieving process.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you want to discuss how this sad news is affecting your child. If they would prefer or if we are unavailable, please consider also contacting one of the organisations below:

- **Cruse Bereavement Care** - www.cruse.org.uk tel:0808 808 1677
- **Childline** - www.childline.org.uk tel:0800 1111
- **Samaritans** - www.samaritans.org tel:116 123
- **Child Bereavement UK** - www.childbereavementuk.org tel:0800 02 888 40

Mr Sam Jones' family has given us permission to share this sad news with you. Out of respect for them, we would request that initially we all refrain from using social media regarding Mr Jones' death. When we return to school in September, together we will find an appropriate way to formally remember Mr Jones within our academy community.

For now, can I ask that your thoughts are with his family, and that you speak openly with your family about how this makes you all feel.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Livesey
Principal, Oasis Academy Leesbrook

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