

EMLBG

2 February 2024

Dear Parent /Carer

I am sure that you are aware that the convicted murderers of Brianna Ghey have been sentenced today and have been named publicly for the first time. I have been at court this morning supporting Brianna's family. We are now hoping that this brings some sort of closure for us all, but we do understand that the names being released could be upsetting for people too.

I know a lot of people in the local community have been aware of their names before today, but this is the first time we can officially acknowledge them.

The female perpetrator has been named as Scarlett Jenkinson and she did attend our school for approximately ten weeks last academic year whilst on a managed transfer from Culcheth. I understand that the clarification of this, along with increased media attention today and over the weekend will be upsetting for some of our students and I wanted to ensure you that we will be providing support for those who need it. Therefore, if you feel your child is struggling coming to terms with anything at all please do let us know.

To address this at school we will be extending our form time on Monday morning so that we can inform students in a way that is age-appropriate and factual. We will ensure there is ample time for students with any concerns to speak to their form tutor or preferred teacher.

Please rest assured that our school and our community are safe and inclusive environments and the well-being of all of our young people is at the heart of our provision. We have spent this year coming to terms with what has happened and have accessed a range of internal and external emotional and practical support for our staff and students. I am so utterly proud of each and every student here at Birchwood Community High School. I am also in awe of my staff team who have continued to deliver the high-quality level of care and education our students deserve, and our community expects from its school.

Most importantly, I would like to thank you and your incredible children for the compassion and care you have all shown over this past twelve months. It is times like this that we need to stand together, and I feel so privileged to be part of this exceptional community.

Best wishes and take care,



Emma Mills