



ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, FCCT, B.Ed(Hons), M.Ed, NPQH, NPQEL



7 January 2026

Dear Families,

Ref: Courtesy Notice – Change of Routine for Wales and France Classes (Thursday 15 January 2026)

I am writing to you following this week's notification of Jude Platts' death, to inform you that his funeral will take place on Thursday, 15 January 2026.

On this day, members of the staff teams from both Wales Class and France Class will be taking time away from work in order to attend the funeral, pay their respects, and say their final goodbyes. This reflects the close and meaningful relationships they shared with Jude and his family.

As a result, while both Wales and France Classes will remain open to students on Thursday 15 January, the students from these classes will be supported within other classes for their learning on that day. This letter is intended as a courtesy notification to make you aware of this change to the usual routine.

We are confident that your child's needs will be met well by staff in the other classes, and appropriate support will be in place throughout the day. However, we also recognise that changes to routine can be challenging. Should you feel that, on this occasion, it would be in your child's best interests to remain at home, I would fully understand this decision. As an extraordinary measure, any such absence will be authorised. Please inform your child's Class Teacher if you wish to send them into school or keep them at home on that day.

I hope that you will join us in supporting the staff who worked so closely with Jude, by allowing them the time and space to devote this important day to him and his family.

Thank you for your understanding, compassion, and continued support during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher