31st January 2021

Dear Parents,

It is with a heavy heart, and tremendous sadness, that we share with you the news that our Headteacher, Jay Blundell, passed away on Friday from a terminal illness which progressed devastatingly quickly. We know that you will join us in keeping Jay’s family and friends in all our thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time.

Jay joined Foundry College in 2016 from The Virtual School, where she had been Interim Headteacher for Looked After Children. Jay was an incredible Head Teacher and woman, who worked passionately and tirelessly to support the most vulnerable in our community. The newly opened Foundry College building is a testament to her drive, determination and commitment to provide the best possible education and life chances to every pupil who had the good fortune to cross her path. We are all the better for having known her and she will be very sorely missed.

We recognise that this sad and shocking news will impact not only on our Foundry family community, but the wider Wokingham community as well, where Jay touched many lives. If you would like to send your condolences in the form of a card to the family, please deliver them to Reception and we will ensure that they are passed on. A memorial service will be held as soon as we are able to do so.

Our priority at this time is to support our colleagues, pupils and families. Counselling will be made available and should you feel that you need additional support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Jay was very proud of how her Foundry Family had pulled together to support each other in these recent challenging times. We will therefore lead by her example and continue to make her proud as we carry on the invaluable work she dedicated her life to.

Yours faithfully,

The Senior Leadership Team