

Educational Psychology Service

Guidance following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



At this time of national mourning following the death of The Queen there could be a collective experience of grief. This may be experienced in a range of ways, in different families and communities. What school staff say and how they behave will help children and young people manage their feelings. Children find the normality of routines reassuring - predictability is important.

It is helpful to:

- 1) Acknowledge the significance of the event - *'Everyone across the UK has heard the sad news about the Queen's death and is talking about how they feel.'* Use factual language.
- 2) Name the feelings so they are normalised and talked about e.g. *'Many people are feeling sad and have a sense of loss.'*
- 3) Make sure children and young people know who to talk to in school if they are feeling overwhelmed by their emotions.

Please see the [Haven of Normality leaflet](#). Some aspects may be helpful for school staff in this circumstance.