



Community Assembly: Hope



It is, unfortunately, a common refrain: where were you when...? On Friday we had yet another tragedy to our catalogue of dispiriting events, with the murder of Sir David Amess MP – an outrage to add to the killing of Jo Cox MP in 2016.

Those who devote themselves to public service – whether it be local government, national government, health service, social care, educational provision etc. – are surely deserving of the simple humanitarian expectation that their job should not jeopardise their life.

For us in education, how inspiring it is to have the energy and the fortitude of youth framing our working lives. Having the good fortune to work with young people, we, in education, are lucky to learn from their optimism.

Moreover, having the privilege to work in a girls' school setting, we are blessed to benefit from the wisdom of a student body who not only care about the future, but have the will to shape the contours of what should come.

Malala Yousafzai articulated a powerful message in her 2013 UN address: **“one child, one teacher, one book, and one pen, can change the world.”** It is light such as this which provides the hope to both guard and galvanise the future.

Published 18th October 2021