



Monday 10th May 2021 - Community Assembly

The power of education



We recently, and rightly, declared that our students have a right to live their daily lives free from harassment and discrimination. In the wake of national events, it was imperative for us, as a proud and long-established girls' school community, to add our voices to a call for justice and equality.

With the events in Kabul over the weekend, we witnessed an appalling manifestation of malevolence. Any attack on children is monstrous. To target a school and education – reprehensible.

The brilliant, brave and inspirational Malala Yousafzai confidently said, at the UN headquarters, New York, in 2013 (when she was 16 years old): “One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world.”

Every arrival at school, every lesson attended, every piece of work completed, and every successful graduation is an affirmation of the power of education.

According to UNICEF, over 130 million girls (34 million girls of primary school age; 30 million girls of lower secondary school age; and 67 million girls of upper secondary school age) are out of school. As a girls' school, opened in 1907, we declare our collective support for the right of girls to have access to and benefit from education. Our commitment to excellence in girls' education and empowerment is true and emboldened.

Mr Lawlor