**School bereavement assemblies and workshops**

The OWLS team can present assemblies and workshops to the whole primary school, key stage, year group or class. The sessions provide a gentle introduction to the transition of life to death where children can reflect on grief and ask questions in a safe and supportive space. These sessions can be used as part of a PSHCE or SEAL curriculum to allow children to think about death and grief without shame or judgement.

We work with school staff to tailor the support to suit the age and special educational needs of the pupils in attendance. Information and opt-out forms will be provided to the school to distribute to parents in the weeks prior to the OWLS session, and an alternative will be offered for children not taking part.

**Help for a school supporting a bereaved child**

Children spend a great deal of time in school so it’s unsurprising that teachers and support staff, as familiar and trusted adults, can play an important role in supporting a bereaved child. There are a number of interventions that the OWLS Bereavement Service can offer a school to aid them in supporting a bereaved child and their family.

We can deliver larger workshops and assemblies, or smaller group session with children who have bereaved and their peers. The OWLS team will endeavour to be in contact with the family of the bereaved child directly prior to workshops/sessions to provide family support where needed. We can also work with pastoral teams and class teachers who may require additional information or training to support a child in school who has been bereaved.

Finally, we can provide a recommended list of reading books and other printed information which adults can use with children. We have specialist texts to suit the needs of children with learning disabilities or other special educational needs.

 If we are unable to offer support, signposting to other organisations who may be able to offer more specialised help will be offered.

**Contacting OWLS**

For more information, please do contact us. We are available via phone or email for general enquiries. Further detail and referral forms can be found on our website.

**Tel:** 0113 433 3737

**Email:** owls@janetomlinsonappeal.com

**Website:** <https://www.janetomlinsonappeal.com/owls>