

Update on Liberton High School

An S1 pupil died shortly before 10 am this morning at Liberton High School after an internal wall collapsed. We understand this was in the PE department. The girl has not yet been named, although her parents have been informed.

Superintendent Matt Richards of Police Scotland said:-“At around 10am today, Police Scotland and other emergency services were called to Liberton High School after a wall within the PE block collapsed, resulting in serious injury to a 12-year-old female pupil.

“Fire service crews and ambulance staff attended to the girl. However, she was pronounced dead at the scene.

“A multi-agency enquiry into the full circumstances surrounding this tragic incident is underway and we are continuing to work alongside our various partner agencies during this investigation.

“The girl’s parents have been fully informed and are currently being supported by the relevant organisations. Our deepest sympathies are with them at this time.

“Our thoughts are also with the pupils at Liberton High School who have lost a classmate and friend today. The school has been closed for the rest of the day while we continue with our enquiries.

“Further updates regarding the school and this investigation will be provided in due course.

“It would be inappropriate to comment further at this time.”

Andy Gray who was appointed in June 2009 to the post of Head of Planning and Performance in the Department of Children and

Families made a statement to the press, speaking outside Liberton High School.

Mr Gray said:-“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of our pupil. This is a distressing time for all connected to Liberton High School.

“We are cooperating fully with Police Scotland and the HSE at this time. The council is working with partner agencies and offering pupils welfare support.”

When pressed by media about the condition of the school building Mr Gray said:-“We are working with Police Scotland and the HSE to really find out thoroughly what has happened today.”

HSE and Police Scotland will meet tomorrow morning to decide who will take the lead on the investigation.

✘ Local councillor Nick Cook told The Edinburgh Reporter:-
“Such shocking and sad news. This is tragic and troubling news out of Liberton High School this morning. My thoughts are first and foremost with the pupil’s family and the school community. However, questions must be asked and the cause of this incident fully investigated”