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**‘I Love You, Mum – I Promise I Won’t Die’ Tour –**

**Autumn 2025/6**

A collage of people in different poses

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**Information for Parents & Carers**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Your child will shortly be among students at their school seeing a Theatre in Education Performance by Tie It Up Theatre of ***‘I Love You, Mum – I Promise I Won’t Die’,*** a powerful verbatim play written by acclaimed playwright Mark Wheeller. It presents opportunities for conversations at home about the play itself and the issues it raises, before or after the performance or both***.***

The play tells the story of Daniel Spargo-Mabbs who tragically died at the age of 16 from an unintentional overdose of MDMA. It charts what happened to Dan, the decisions he made and how it affected his family and friends – from tragedy to redemption – and all told in their own words.

The title of the play comes from Dan’s last words to his mum when he left home. You can read more about Dan’s story [here](https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/dans-story/) or by copying this link into your browser: <https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/dans-story/>

The play was published by[Bloomsbury (Methuen Drama)](https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/i-love-you-mum-i-promise-i-wont-die-9781350011304/)in 2017. Since then, it has been studied, taught and performed in schools, colleges and community youth theatres across the UK and as far away as Australia, New Zealand and Canada, and it is now a GCSE Drama set text in England and Wales. A touring version, adapted by the playwright, has been visiting schools, colleges and communities since 2017 as a Theatre in Education production, with interactive workshops to follow which explore some of the themes and messages of the play. Originally only in schools in and around London, it now travels across England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. This will be its fifth Scottish schools tour, with a Scottish cast and production adapted for Scotland.

The play is around an hour long and includes short, filmed interviews with Dan’s parents, Fiona and Tim. It is followed by a 30-minute interactive drug education workshop run by the cast. It aims to leave no student in doubt that they always have a choice about the decisions they make and that the risks associated with illegal substance use can be incredibly high. They will learn key facts that will help them make informed decisions and important strategies to put their decisions into practice in a pressured situation, and to help friends do the same.

**Please note:** If you feel the content of the play may be difficult for your child for any reason, please speak to their school.

The charity that commissioned the play, the DSM Foundation, was set up by the family in 2014 after the death of Daniel. It aims to educate and support young people to make safer choices about drugs, through work with students, teachers, parents/carers and professionals in schools, colleges and community organisations across the UK and overseas.

Fiona, Dan’s mum, has become a leading UK expert on drug education and is regularly asked to speak by the media and on various national platforms. She is author of two books for parents, the award-winning [**‘I Wish I’d Known – Young People, Drugs and Decisions’**](https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/more-information-for-parents/i-wish-id-known-fionas-book/) (Sheldon Press, 2021) and [**‘Talking the Tough Stuff with Teens’**](https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk/more-information-for-parents/talking-the-tough-stuff/) (Sheldon Press, 2022). In 2023 she was awarded an OBE for services to young people.

You can read more about the DSM Foundation and the play (and their wider work) on their website. Please visit [www.dsmfoundation.org.uk](https://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk)

Many thanks,

The Daneil Spargo-Mabbs Foundation