



**Todmorden**  
High School

**Respect**

**Ambition**

**Care**

**Honesty**

**AR**

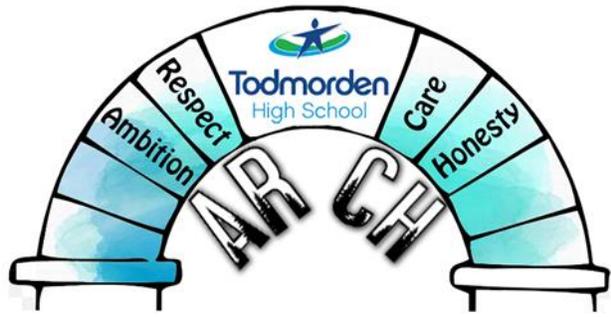
**CH**

**Ambition**

**Respect**

**Care**

**Honesty**



Helen Joanne Cox (22 June 1974 – 16 June 2016) was a British politician who served as Member of Parliament (MP) for Batley and Spen from May 2015 until her murder in June 2016. She was a member of the Labour Party.

On 16 June 2016, Cox died after being shot and stabbed multiple times in the street in the village of Birstall, where she had been due to hold a constituency surgery. Thomas Mair, who held far-right views, was found guilty of her murder in November and sentenced to life imprisonment with a whole life order.

**Ambition**

**Respect**

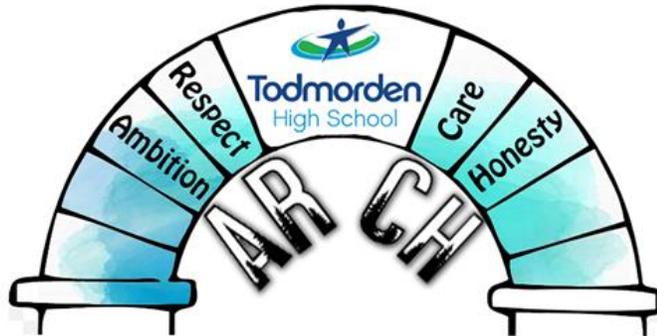
**Care**

**Honesty**

Why was she killed?



The perpetrator of the attack was Thomas Alexander Mair, a 53-year-old unemployed gardener born in Scotland. Mair had mental health problems, though he was declared sane in the moment of the crime. He believed individuals of liberal and left-wing political viewpoints, and the mainstream media, were the cause of the world's problems. Guardian writers suggested that he targeted Cox, a "passionate defender" of the European Union and immigration, because he saw her as "one of 'the collaborators' [and] a traitor" to white people.



**Ambition**

**Respect**

**Care**

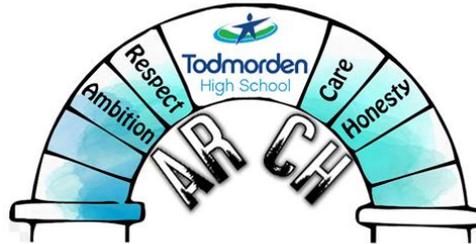
**Honesty**

Why was she killed?



The level of hatred carried by Mair towards Jo Cox motivated him to kill her. Jo had always championed equality, and tried to make the world a fairer place for everyone she came into contact with. Mair held very intolerant views, wanting only white British people to be treated well; in his opinion, other people were inferior and not worthy of equality.

This case shows how dangerous these kind of intolerant views are, and how a person motivated by these extreme ideas can become very dangerous to others. By living out our value of care, we can show our heartfelt belief that everyone is an equal and important part of our class, our school, our wider community and the whole world.



**Ambition**

**Respect**

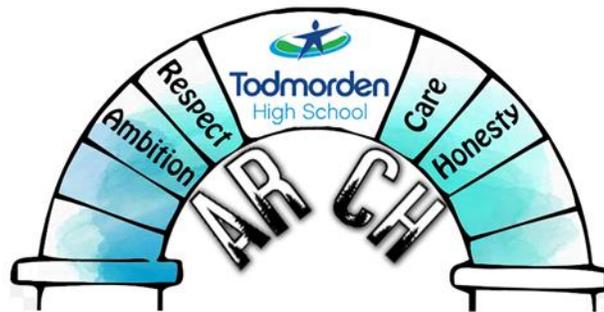
**Care**

**Honesty**

This quotation, taken from Jo's maiden (first) speech in the House of Commons after she was elected as an MP, has become her legacy. The Jo Cox Foundation was established in 2016 by Jo's friends and family, who were determined that their resentment of Jo's killer wasn't going to destroy their lives, too. The Foundation exists to build a positive legacy for Jo and to create something good from the tragedy that was her murder.

The foundation website states, *'Our vision is for a kinder, more compassionate society where every individual has a sense of belonging and where we recognise that we have more in common than that which divides us.'*

“we are far more united and have far more in common than that which divides us”



Ambition

Respect

Care

Honesty



Here you can see some of the aims of The Jo Cox Foundation.

## Our Mission

The Jo Cox Foundation inspires and galvanises positive change at local, national and international levels. We do this by partnering with visionary individuals and organisations who share our commitment to the fairer, kinder world that Jo dedicated her life to building.

### Stronger Communities



**Locally** we work to create compassionate, well connected communities where everyone has a sense of identity and belonging, by bringing people together through The Great Get Together campaign and the national More in Common community.

### A Better Public Life



**Nationally** we work to build a better public life through tackling abuse and intimidation, encouraging cross-party work on important issues, and inspiring the next generation of women and young people.

### A Fairer World



**Internationally** we support organisations and initiatives which champion the humanitarian causes Jo cared about.

# Ambition

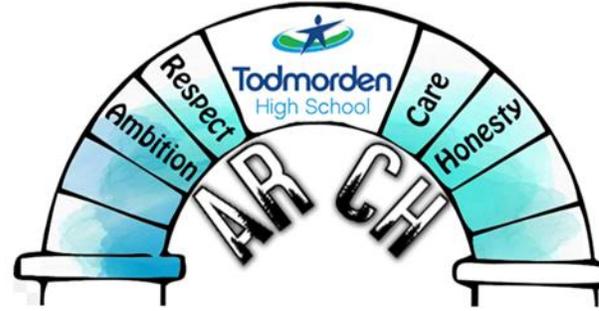
# Respect

# Care

# Honesty

## What is the Great Get Together?

The Great Get Together is an initiative inspired by the late Jo Cox designed to bring people together to celebrate what they have in common. Through the Great Get Together, we ask people across the country to make new connections and promote Jo's message of unity.



Our community of Todmorden is already a strong community. That's not to say that there aren't divisions, and people who are lonely, at the heart of it. This has been made more true by the isolation some people have felt throughout the pandemic.



I'm forming a plan for a 'Great THS Get Together' this summer. Watch this space and get ready to get involved!!