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Boy found hanged 'may have been playing prank'

Andrew Dickens

A 12-year-old boy who was killed in a tragic accident in his Cambridge home may have been playing a prank on his mother, an inquest has heard.



Marlowe Izaak Myers

Marlowe Izaak Myers – known as Izaak – died at his home in The Green, East Chesterton, on September 4 last year.

An inquest in Huntingdon this morning heard the Chesterton Community College pupil had been left to play on his Xbox after eating dinner with his mother Nicki, 39, at 7.30pm. He was said to be in a good mood and had enjoyed his day at school.

But at about 9pm, when his mother, who is paralysed, checked on him, Izaak was discovered hanging in the family utility room.

Despite his mother giving him CPR and doctors attempts to resuscitate him, Izaak was pronounced dead at 10.13pm shortly before arriving at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Giving evidence at the hearing, Det Insp Laura Kosciwicz, of Cambridgeshire Police, said that Izaak was a happy child who often liked to play pranks on his mother.

She said: "His mum said Marlowe was delighted about going back to school to his friends and was excited about football club later that week. He had just been bought a new pair of football shoes.

"There were no previous indications of suicidal thoughts.

"Speaking to the school, they said he had friends and while there was some concern about his attendance, there was no concern that he was unhappy.

"His mum said that he may have been worried about going back to school and having friends. But when he came home he had a really good day at school."

Coroner David Morris recorded a verdict of misadventure.

He said: "Whether he was playing a prank, whether he was trying out some experiment I don't know and we may never know.

"However, I can't be satisfied that he wanted to take his own life."

A post-mortem examination carried out on September 5 revealed the cause of death to be asphyxiation by hanging.

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