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03/12/18

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to inform you that I will stand down from my post as Headteacher of Greenford High, taking effect from 31st August 2019. At that point, I will have been at the school for just short of 25 years, nearly 11 years as Head. I arrived at the school as the second in the English department and it has been hugely rewarding to see our school, and our students, make such progress.

It has been a great privilege to have served as a Headteacher here and my love for GHS is undiminished – I have never been tempted to move on to a different school, despite opportunities. However, I think that it is now time for me to step down. I believe it is time for a Headteacher with a fresh drive and vision to try to take GHS to the next level, building on our many wonderful strengths and developing those areas which still have room for improvement.

During the remainder of my time here, I will of course try to do my very best. I see this as an exciting time for the school and a great opportunity to move forward. The *i-Block* has given us a little glimpse of the future. We must now build on the foundation of our fantastic results and the incredible number of students heading off to university. There are so many members of staff here with the ability, determination and values to lead the school to even greater success. I know that I will leave the school in safe hands. For myself, I plan to live a different life.

I would like to thank all of the staff at GHS for the support, commitment and sheer hard-work they have given to the school over the last decade – it is much appreciated. The success of our students is a reflection of the quality of the staff; our success simply illustrates the depth of ability in the school. I would also like to thank our Governing Body for their unwavering support and dedication to the school and community. Of course, a school is only here to serve its students and parents and I have been fortunate enough to work with so many delightful, dedicated students and warm and generous parents who both value education and share our aspirations. We have all been united in our desire to give the young people who come here the best education, and the best opportunities in life, that we can. These days, I find at subject evenings that I have taught quite a number of the parents who now bring their own children to this school: it makes me feel both old and happy at the same time!



What Happens Next at Greenford High?

I have had a number of discussions with the Chair of Governors (Shital Manro), the Vice-Chair (Sunny Chana) and with Ealing LA. The Governing Body will advertise for the next Headteacher in early January. Applications will then be short-listed by a selection of experienced Governors and a representative of the Local Authority. Candidates will then face a two day interview and assessment process.

Inevitably, parents, carers and students will have mixed reactions to this news. It is not my intention to unsettle anyone and I can assure you that the school will be in safe hands. My view is that change can be a really positive thing and this will be an exciting opportunity for the school. I feel hugely positive about the future of GHS and believe that we can continue to develop, continue to improve.

With best wishes for the future and many thanks for all the support you have given our students and our school. I will let you know the outcome of the Headteacher interviews, and our plans for a transition from one leader to another, once they are finalised.

Mr M. Cramer
Headteacher