



St Ann's School
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Head Teacher: Ms. Gillian Carver

30th March 2002

Dear Parents/Carers

Following a recent Governing Body meeting and notification to the Local Authority I am writing to inform you that I am retiring from my post as Headteacher at St Ann's at the end of the Autumn term, December 2022.

It has been an absolute privilege and a great pleasure to undertake the role of Headteacher since my appointment in January 2002 and I remain as passionate as ever about striving to provide the best possible education and care for each of our young people.

St Ann's students, families, governors and staff have over the years made St Ann's a very special community through supporting each other and consistently advocating for our students so that their needs are more fully met and they are better equipped for their future adult lives.

There is of course much work still to be done to ensure that our students' complex needs remain a high priority at local and national level but I am confident that St Ann's will continue to thrive under new leadership, a highly talented workforce and the ongoing, invaluable support from yourselves, The Governing Body and the Local Authority.

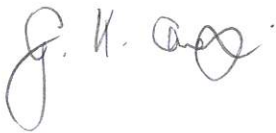
The Governors and Local Authority officers are currently at the beginning of a robust recruitment process for St Ann's new Headteacher. The advert and information pack is being published tomorrow and visits for prospective candidates are scheduled for the 20th and 21st of April. Applications close on the 3rd May and interviews will take place on the 16th and 17th of May. The interview panel will consist of the Chair of St Ann's Governing Body, other governors including parent governors, St Ann's Local Authority Link Officer, and senior Human Resources officers. We will of course keep you informed as to the outcomes of the recruitment process.

I want to assure you that I will do everything possible to ensure the smooth transition to a new Headteacher and to thank you and past parents and carers for your trust, support and encouragement. Over the years it has truly been an honour for the staff and I to work with each of the amazing young people who attend St Ann's. They have taught us so much and given us so much joy. Their resilience and positive energy to fully embrace all aspects of life, to the best of their ability, has been truly inspirational and continues to be our driving force to do more, achieve more and of course have lots of fun whilst doing so.

Finally I wish to pay tribute to all of you as the parents/carers, brothers, sisters and the wider family of our students. You are a remarkable group of people who do the very best that you can, day after day and year after year for your young person, from the moment he/she is born, not out of duty but out of the best kind of love. Parents of disabled children are not especially equipped for the enormity of the role that they find themselves confronting, but over the years in spite of the many challenges and often chronic exhaustion, they have to develop new skills and assimilate new information to meet the changing needs of their children particularly as they reach puberty and young adulthood. As I look back over the years I remain in awe as to how St Ann's families have risen to these challenges and often overcome the most difficult circumstances and I am proud that in some small ways St Ann's has been able to work in partnership with you, provide pragmatic support and help to secure a brighter future.

I am of course greatly going to miss everyone and everything about St Ann's. The school's strong sense of community, it's relentless 'can do' approach and it's unforgettable students, staff, families and governors will always have a very special place in my heart and I will continue to champion the rights of all young people with complex disabilities and follow the school's future progress with undiminished interest.

Yours sincerely



Gillian

