

6th March 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian

In my previous communication I informed you of the impending retirement of our Headmaster, Dr David Dennison. At this point in time it has not been possible to make a suitable new appointment. I am delighted to say that Dr. Dennison has offered to stay on at the school for a further year, until Summer 2013. Furthermore, Dr. Dennison has agreed to the Governors' request to explore the possibility of the school converting to Academy status. This is no light undertaking, but the Governing Body is of the view that the advantages of becoming an Academy School are too important for the conversion not to be fully explored. Locally, a number of schools within the City are either going through the conversion process or exploring it. If successful they will be joining a number of other schools in the City who already have Academy Status.

As an Academy, the School would be in a stronger financial position and be better able to institute changes for the benefit of all our students. Similarly, Academy status would confer upon the school the ability to adjust its curriculum to match the needs of our students.

We will be writing to you again once the situation is clearer in order to seek your views as we progress the consultation process in partnership with all stakeholders.

I hope you join with me in supporting Dr. David Dennison's decision to continue in post to work with the Governors, staff, students and yourselves to secure the best possible outcome for the School.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Ricketts', written over a horizontal line.

Brian Ricketts, FCA
Chair of Governors