

25th June 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

I am writing to inform you that after five immensely enjoyable and successful years at Aspire Academy, I have made the very difficult decision to accept a new position as Headteacher in Hanoi, Vietnam. This has been prompted by my husband Mike's new position in South East Asia and my new job allows me to move with him.

As I reflect on my time at Aspire, I am delighted to say that we as a team of students, teachers, parents and Governors, have achieved much of what we have set out to do; the GCSE results have increased year on year and the OFSTED 'Good' rating was the icing on the cake. When I started at Aspire as Deputy Principal I intended to stay for two years or so but after working with the talented staff and wonderful students I have stayed much longer than I anticipated.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to see the hundreds of students grow and develop in to such confident and successful learners. They now leave Aspire better equipped for making their way in the world and securing their Golden Futures.

I would like to assure you that I have every confidence in Mr John Woods who will be my successor as Headteacher at Aspire from August 2019. He is an excellent choice and I am thrilled he will be taking over the reins as he has played a big part in Aspire's success story. I wish him and all the staff and students the best for the coming years and their exciting journey towards Outstanding.

My final thoughts and words are for the students; I will miss you the most as you have been the reason I have enjoyed my job every day (well most days!). We have a wonderfully diverse student body: sporty, artistic, academic, socially confident and a few cheeky ones too! You have all left an impression on me and I hope in some way that I have on you.

I leave with mixed emotions, some excitement about my new adventure but mainly sadness about leaving you all. It only remains to wish you all the very best and have a fabulous summer holiday when it comes.

Yours sincerely



Lisa Shuttleworth-Brown

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