

Dear Students and Parents

February 22, 2012

I am writing to inform you of the decision I have made to conclude my time as Principal at John Cabot Academy at the end of this academic year.

This is not a decision I have taken lightly as I have been committed to the Academy for many years; however, I believe it is time for me to take all I have learned at Cabot into a school requiring immediate and decisive change.

You may be aware that a decision was made by the Cabot Learning Federation Board (CLF), and by Bath and North East Somerset Local Authority (BaNES) to transfer responsibility for Culverhay School into the hands of the CLF rather than close the school. Following the subsequent decision taken by OfSTED in January 2012 to place Culverhay School into Special Measures, and the subsequent decision taken by the Board to discontinue the employment of the current Principal, I approached the CLF Board about 4 weeks ago to request that I be considered for the position of Principal at Culverhay, and received a warm response from them about this prospect.

Yesterday, I participated in a series of selection activities at Culverhay School, and was interviewed by the CLF Board, Culverhay students, staff, parents and Governors, as well as the Department for Education (DfE), prior to being offered the post. I have accepted the role, due to start on 1 September, with a likely Designate Principal start date of 1 June 2012.

Having joined John Cabot CTC in 1998 as a maths teacher it was a privilege, some 10 years later, to become the Principal of John Cabot Academy. I have learned so much at the Academy from enthusiastic and motivated students, passionate members of staff and from supportive and loyal parents. I could not have been better prepared to venture into this new school context requiring severe and rapid change and I appreciate the role that all past and present students, staff and parents have had in helping me lead the Academy and in shaping me for this new role.

The success of John Cabot Academy over the past 4 years has never been dependent upon me alone but upon a dedicated senior leadership team and full staff body who understand how to work at an outstanding level every day. There is no reason to suspect that any of this will change as this is now embedded practice at the Academy. I am completely confident about the future of education for all students at the Academy.

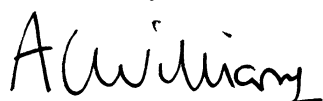
Please note that my departure is not due until the end of the academic year and so there is sufficient time for a suitable replacement to be appointed and inducted into the role prior to my departure.

You will know that I have always tried to operate an open door approach in order to encourage transparency and freedom of expression. I will be talking to staff over the next few weeks about the timescales and transitions plans and am equally happy to talk to any parent or student about any related query or concern.

In the meantime, for the next few months, please expect me to continue leading the Academy in the manner to which you have become accustomed.

I will write to you again nearer my period of transition.

Yours sincerely



ADAM WILLIAMS
PRINCIPAL

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