

KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL



PRINCIPAL
DAVID McPARTLIN

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BH/CAW

6 March 2009

Dear Parent/Carer

I am sorry to have to tell you that our Principal, David McPartlin, has tendered his resignation to the Governing Body with effect from August 2009.

Mr McPartlin has been Principal for twelve years. Throughout his time here he has been an inspiration to both staff and students. On all occasions he has stood firm in his determination to make Ken Stimpson Community School a community school that is accessible to all, as well as an exciting place to both learn and work. Everyone associated with the school will be very sorry to lose him.

When the plans for the development of Ken Stimpson Community School were proposed in 2003 Mr McPartlin committed himself to Governors to seeing through the completion of the building programme and the first year of expansion. In practice he has extended that period of time.

The Governing Body are concerned about the effect a change of Principal will have on the progress of the school at this time. We have had several years of disruption and have just entered a period of calm consistency in which to grow and progress. The evidence of improvement is strong and it is apparent that the initiatives on which we have been working are becoming successful. Bearing this in mind the Governors consulted with the Local Authority and other advisory bodies as to the best way forward. As a result we have taken the decision to appoint Richard Lord, Vice Principal, to the role of Acting Principal for one year prior to advertising the post nationally. This will afford us the opportunity to continue current initiatives as well as giving us time to consult with staff, students and parents in seeking a permanent replacement.

At the request of Governors Mr McPartlin has agreed to return to the school, on a part time basis, for one year to support the Leadership Team. This arrangement will guarantee a further time of progress with a group of high quality leaders and managers who know the school well and are committed to its continuing improvement.

We will, of course, keep you informed of further developments throughout the next year but please be assured that the standard of education at Ken Stimpson Community School is of paramount importance to us and any decisions taken will be with the best interests of our students as our number one priority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bridget Holland'.

Bridget Holland
Chair of Governors