

ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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"An outstanding School" Ofsted

Voluntary Aided

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9 September 2016

Dear Parents

As I begin my 40th year as a teacher, encompassing 28 years at St Michael's, I have decided to offer my resignation as Headmaster with effect from the end of the Summer term 2017 in order to start the next phase in my life – retirement. My decision to make this public at the start of the academic year is to enable the Governors and Trustees time to recruit a suitable replacement.

I have had many happy years in teaching, especially at St Michael's. It has been a privilege to be a member of and to lead such a fantastic school community.

It has also been a joy to work with successive generations of such gifted young people and their supportive parents, as well as with highly dedicated colleagues in their roles as teachers, support staff or Governors. Thank you to everyone for your generous encouragement and support.

St Michael's has changed markedly since I first arrived in 1988. Under the leadership of Miss Daly, Miss Morrissey and then myself, I believe that it is now firmly established as one of the top-performing grammar schools in the country. I hope that this has been achieved without compromising the integrity and care which forms such an intricate part of the school's Catholic ethos.

I wish the school every success in the future. Although I will miss the daily contact with the school, especially the pupils and colleagues, I will continue to support the school's development as a trustee member and in my prayers.

Yours sincerely

**Mr Julian Ward
Headmaster**