



Thursday 15 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

An Important Announcement About My Retirement

I am writing to share some personal news with you. After much reflection, I have made the decision to retire from my role as Headteacher at the end of academic year, July 2026.

By the time I step down, I will have had the privilege of serving as Headteacher of High Wycombe C of E School for over 22 years. This school has been a huge part of my life, and it is impossible to fully express what it has meant to me. Working with your children, families, staff, governors, and the wider community has been both an honour and a joy.

Our Christian Vision and Values

Throughout my time here, I have been privileged to lead a school community rooted in our Christian vision, inspired by Joshua 1:9: *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

This powerful message has guided everything we do, reminding us that with God's strength and courage, we can face any challenge. Our six core Christian values, Compassion, Forgiveness, Respect, Thankfulness, Hope and Peace, have shaped how we care for each child, how we work together as a community, and how we prepare our children for their journey ahead.

These values are lived out daily in the kindness, resilience, and care shown by our children and staff, and I am incredibly proud of the community we have built together.

What I'm Most Proud Of

Over the past two decades, it has been my absolute privilege to watch your children grow into confident, capable young people who embody our Christian values. Together with our amazing staff and supportive governors, we have built a school where every child is nurtured, challenged, and encouraged to be the very best they can be.



What Happens Next

There is never a "right" time to leave a role like this, and this decision has not been an easy one. However, I feel confident that I am leaving the school in a very strong position, with a clear vision, dedicated staff, supportive governors, and, most importantly, wonderful children who continue to inspire us every day.

The Governing Body will begin the recruitment process for my successor shortly. I am committed to ensuring a smooth transition and will work closely with the new Headteacher to maintain the continuity and excellence you expect from our school. The new Headteacher will share our commitment to our Christian vision and values, continuing to lead with the strength and courage that Joshua 1:9 inspires.

I will share more details about the timeline and transition arrangements in the coming weeks, and there will be opportunities to celebrate together before I leave.

Thank You

Thank you sincerely for the trust you have placed in me and for your partnership in your children's education. While leaving will create a real sense of loss for me personally, I do so with gratitude and confidence in the school's future.

The school will continue to thrive, guided by our Christian vision and values, and I look forward to hearing about its continued success in the years to come.

With my very best wishes and prayers,



Celine Hawkins
Headteacher

