

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. We have welcomed back many of our Year 10 and 12 pupils this week and it has been great to see them all again after such a long time.

I am writing to inform you that **I have made a decision to remain as Principal at The King's** and not take up my new role as planned. As you can imagine, this was not a decision that I have taken lightly but one that has been reached after a good deal of thought and reflection.

Over recent weeks I have come to realise just how much The King's means to me, having been a part of its growing success over the past four years. I want to play an integral part in the school's future and am committed to taking The King's onwards and upwards to the next level so that it becomes a truly world class school.

I feel a very strong sense of 'unfinished business' and want to carry on leading the school as it continues to grow and flourish. As staffing appointments and plans for the new school year have been made, I have become increasingly excited about what the future holds for The King's. We have our new school vision, now just over 1 year old, that is giving us a shared direction. We have made several excellent appointments of staff and leaders who will take up their posts in September. There is a programme of building work, currently taking place that will improve the school environment. We have a new curriculum that has been fully reviewed to ensure that it is exciting, challenging, inclusive and engaging. And finally, we have a strengthened and dedicated Governing Board who are providing guidance and wisdom and ensuring that high standards are met. For all of these reasons and many more besides, I am excited and passionate about continuing to lead The King's into the future.

Added to that I fully recognise that we are a considerable way from returning to 'normality' after our prolonged partial closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic and that this was always a far from ideal time to be leaving the school. I know that there is a lot of work to be done in supporting everyone through this national crisis so that our pupils' education and future prospects for employment and wellbeing are not compromised.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported me over the past few months since I announced my departure and have been very touched by the comments and messages that I have received.

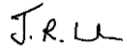
We are really looking forward to seeing more of our Year 10 and 12 pupils this week as well as continuing to teach the children of Key Workers who have been attending daily since March. We are also maintaining our focus on all other year groups through our online curriculum which includes our focus on Careers Education for all year groups and our Eisteddfod House competition for Key Stage 3.

These are indeed very unusual and difficult times, but I am delighted to be remaining as Principal at The King's. I know that the school is built on a really firm foundation and am incredibly proud of how our pupils have responded to the challenge and the way in which the whole school community has

come together throughout this crisis to support one another. This is a major strength of our school and I thank you for the part that you have played in this.

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.R. Ludlow". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Mr Ludlow