

July 23, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this final letter to you as Headteacher of Meden School, I find myself reflecting on the extraordinary journey we have taken together over the past seven years, especially the transformation we've seen over the past six.

Meden School has changed significantly in that time. We have been through a period of rapid and sustained improvement, and I'm incredibly proud of what we have achieved as a community. From a successful Ofsted inspection to several years of consistently above-average exam results, Meden is now oversubscribed and firmly established as the local school of choice.

We have invested in our environment too, with building renovations that reflect the pride we take in creating a space where students feel safe, inspired, and ambitious and we've embedded oracy at the heart of our curriculum, so much so that last year, we became a Voice 21 Oracy Centre of Excellence. The ability to speak confidently, listen actively, and express ideas clearly has become a powerful driver of student success, and I am incredibly proud of how far we've come in this area.

But above all, the greatest asset Meden has, and will always have, is its students. Their energy, resilience, ambition, and kindness have inspired me every single day. They are the reason we do what we do, and it has been an honour to serve them.

To you, our parents, and carers, a massive and heartfelt thank you. Thank you for your support, your encouragement, and your partnership throughout my time as Headteacher. You have trusted us with your children, stood with us through challenge and change, and played a vital role in everything we have achieved together. I am deeply grateful.

It has been the privilege of my career to lead Meden School. This place has not only shaped me as a leader, but it has also shaped me as a person. Meden has played an incredibly important part in both my professional journey and my life and leaving it behind is something I do with real emotion and pride.

Although I am stepping down, I leave confident in the strength of the team leading Meden forward. This school is in excellent hands, and the future is bright.

Please take a moment to watch my short farewell video message below, where I share more about what Meden, and your children, have meant to me.

<https://youtu.be/O14QwUd3LuM>

With heartfelt thanks and absolute best wishes for the future,

Warm regards,



Jim Smith
Headteacher of Meden School

