

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sorry to tell you that Mandy Golding's illness means that she has been granted premature retirement from the start of this term on the grounds of ill health. Ms Golding is very sad to have had to take this decision but, after consultation with her doctors, the governors and senior staff at the school, she feels this is for the best as she will no longer be able to give the school her full energy and commitment.

On behalf of the school's governors I want to pay tribute to Ms Golding for her drive and commitment since she became Headteacher in September 2007. The school has made enormous progress under her leadership. Our students now achieve over 72% good GCSE passes, and in Ofsted's view we provide a good standard of education.

Our school's success under Ms Golding's leadership is now widely recognised, by the growing number of parents and carers choosing to send their children to us and by the stream of visitors, many from abroad, looking to learn from us.

Ms Golding has worked hard to build a school whose achievements will endure. She leaves the school in a far stronger position, better able to cope with the challenges ahead such as reduced budgets and increased competition from the new central government schools about to open locally.

Governors will begin the process of seeking a new Headteacher immediately and in the meantime Neville Lassiter will continue as Acting Head.

Ms Golding has asked that I pass on to you how much she has enjoyed her time at Acton High and her thanks for the support you have given her over the last three years.

Yours sincerely

Guy Fiegehen
Chair of Governors