



Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to inform you that Mr Lowes, Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Leader, will be leaving Barrow Hedges at the end of this academic year. Mr Lowes has been successful in gaining a Headship at an out of borough school.

I am sure that you will appreciate that while we are all delighted for him and recognise that he is ready for this exciting new challenge, Mr Lowes will be greatly missed by the Barrow Hedges community.

Mr Lowes was one of several new teachers to join the Barrow Hedges team in September 2014, which was an especially exciting time for our school. This was the second full academic year of my headship and recruiting Mr Lowes to his post as Inclusion Leader was a key part of the vision to ensure that Barrow Hedges would be an inclusive school with high aspirations for each and every child. Following his appointment, he was soon promoted to Assistant Headteacher and then Deputy Headteacher reflecting his natural aptitude for leadership. There is no doubt that this was an excellent appointment – Mr Lowes is a hard working, caring and conscientious member of our team, who is always child centred in his approach. Reputationally, Barrow Hedges is now very well regarded for our inclusive practices within and beyond our borough. This is in no small part down to the tireless work Mr Lowes has given to the school; his knowledge and skills about special educational needs and his ability to build excellent relationships with others. Mr Lowes has continually supported the school superbly through its highs and lows, including during the period of my maternity leave.

With this in mind, I know that he has found the timing of his impending departure particularly difficult given the current pandemic and closure of schools. However, if we are to take something from this current crisis, that is that one must focus on the positives and I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mr Lowes on this promotion. Leading his own school closer to his home will also enable him to spend more time with his family and young children.

You have our assurances that there will be a careful handover to the new postholder. At present I am unable to confirm who this will be, as I am sure you will understand that there will be a number of steps to take to ensure that Mr Lowes's responsibilities are undertaken by a suitable replacement. I sincerely hope that schools can safely re-open before the summer holidays so that we can say a 'proper' goodbye and extend our thanks and best wishes to Mr Lowes. I would be grateful if you would share this news with your child(ren). Thank you.

Kind regards,

*Louise Wood*

Mrs Louise Wood

Headteacher



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