

Dear Parents and Carers

11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

I have been asked to forward to you a letter from Cath McEvoy, the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services at Northumberland County Council, which has been posted on the letters section of our website.

The letter echoes the sentiments of letters that you have received from me.

On a personal level, prior to an advertisement being placed early in January, writing to you again has given me the opportunity to inform you of my decision to retire from my post of Headteacher of Ellington Primary School at the end of the current academic year.

I have been contemplating retirement for a while but remained in post to see the school through the difficulties that we have been faced with recently. I very much hope that the Covid situation will have eased by the end of the summer term and that the school will be in a position to put into place a 'new normal'. I feel, however, that the new normal should be put in place by a new Headteacher with a long term vision for the school and I have informed the Governing Body of my decision early to allow them the optimum amount of time to appoint the right person to take on that challenge.

Whilst looking forward to retirement, I will of course be extremely sad to leave Ellington Primary School after 26 years in post and I can honestly say that it has been a privilege to hold such a position and to have worked with so many talented and dedicated staff and governors.

I will miss the children and families in this fantastic community that I have been proud to serve and from whom I have received so much support.

August is of course a long way away and until then I look forward to enjoying my last two terms in school in what will hopefully be a happier and healthier year for us all.

Yours sincerely

K Vardy

Headteacher