



25th May 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following a request from Mrs Goddard to move to part time Headship, for personal reasons, the Governing Body of Alban City met on Wednesday 29th March and considered, at length, whether this would be possible. As it has become increasingly difficult for schools, in Hertfordshire and nationally, to appoint quality Headteachers in Primary Schools and as we very much wished to retain Mrs Goddard, the Governing Body researched the pros and cons carefully.

There are several schools in Hertfordshire who have successfully moved to a Co-Headship model, where two Headteachers work closely together, sharing the many diverse roles of Headship. This arrangement relies very much on the close working relationship of the two Headteachers and can have a very positive impact on a school. Five of our governors attended a meeting at one of these schools to find out how the two Headteachers and the Governing Body worked together to ensure consistency across the week, as well as raising school improvement standards. This visit allayed many of our concerns and further discussions ensued.

At the meeting, it was the unanimous decision of the Governors that we wished to retain Mrs Goddard for the foreseeable future. We then spent time considering the concept of a Co-Headship arrangement at Alban City, both its advantages and disadvantages. Our further, lengthy discussions culminated in the Governing Body's agreement to advertise for a Co-Headteacher to complement Mrs Goddard in the role of Headteacher at our school.

I am sure that you will agree with the Governors that we have an excellent Headteacher in Mrs Goddard. She has taken the original vision of our school and made it even better than we had ever envisaged. Mrs Goddard has built a strong team of excellent teachers and support staff who work closely together to ensure our children are not only achieving their very best but also having fun in the process.

Consequently, we will be advertising for a part-time Headteacher in the coming week. It is likely that setting up the Co-Headship model may take until January 2018. This will give the Governors time to appoint the very best person to the role and ensure the continuity of ethos and high achievement which is the trademark of Alban City School.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Crawley MBE
Chair of Governors