



24 February 2022

Dear Students, Parents & Carers,

It is with some regret that I am writing to you to inform you of my decision to step down as Head of School at Nottingham Free School at the end of this academic year. This has not been an easy decision for me to make because there are so many elements of my job that I love. However, I have decided it is time for a change, and so I intend to step away from headship.

Being a Head Teacher is a very privileged position. You are afforded a unique and inspiring view of students as they grow and develop into exciting young people with lives full of possibility. During my twenty-seven years in teaching, I have been lucky enough to share wonderful experiences with thousands of students, and my time with the students of NFS will always be very precious to me.

In most walks of life it is not necessary to make such announcements so far in advance, but in teaching there are strict national recruitment deadlines. In the coming days our multi-academy trust, Nova, will therefore be advertising for my replacement. Beyond that, I would hope that our students do not notice any other differences as I continue to do my very best for everyone at NFS.

Regards,

Yours faithfully

Mark Watts
Head of School