

Farewell Letter from Principal Andrew Wakefield

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you and your children are well as we approach the Christmas period. As you know, I leave post as Principal this week to take up a new role as Assistant Director of Education at The Yes Trust and I therefore wanted to write to our community to say a brief farewell before the end of term.

I feel very emotional to be leaving The Edge Academy after seven years working here; as someone born and bred in Northfield, it has been an honour to lead the school and it has been joyous to see the school grow its profile both regionally and nationally in recent years. I will miss all of our fantastic students immensely and wish them well for the future!

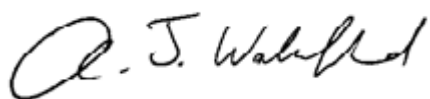
Equally, I will miss my magnificent team of staff and must salute their incredible work ethic and dedication to our students. When the school was named the country's "Alternative Provision Team of the Year" at the most recent national PRUsAP conference, it was just reward for the extraordinary commitment that my colleagues put in day in, day out. I have no doubt whatsoever that Adam Smith will continue to drive the school forwards as your new Principal and know that he will uphold all of the values which are dear to both ourselves and yourselves.

I must of course thank a number of other people for the support they have given myself personally as well as the school since I joined it. First and foremost, I am truly grateful for the help I have received from our governing body throughout my time at The Edge, particularly Ruth Harker, our Chair of Governors, who will continue to lead the group moving forwards.

Thanks too to a variety of other partners and establishments with whom we work closely, including The South Area Network, The Oaks Collegiate and Birmingham Education Partnership. In addition, I have greatly appreciated the close links we have established over a long period of time with colleagues at our neighbouring Alternative Provision schools REACH in Kings Heath and ASPIRE in North Worcestershire. We are an outward facing school and have appreciated the support we have received from a huge number of schools across the country.

If you have any further questions we can assist with regarding this letter, remember that contact at Principal level now switches to Adam Smith at adam.smith@theedgeacademy.co.uk. I hope you and your children enjoy a safe and restful festive period; thank you all for your assistance during my time in role!

Yours faithfully,



Andrew Wakefield

Principal

Safe, Ready, Respectful

