



**IRVINE ROYAL ACADEMY**  
Ambition • Respect • Responsibility

Tuesday 25 June 2019

Dear Pupils, Parents & Carers

**MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER**

I wanted to write to you to let you know that I will be leaving Irvine Royal Academy in September to take up the post of Head of Service for Children, Families and Justices Services in North Ayrshire Council. Please know that my decision to leave was an immensely difficult one because I am forever heartened by each and every single pupil in our school and the positivity and motivating factors that they bring every day. However, after a lot of deep personal reflection, my decision to leave is based on having the privileged opportunity to make a difference to all of North Ayrshire's children, which as you know I am very passionate about.

Over the past two and a half years it has been an honour to be the Head Teacher of Irvine Royal Academy and we have travelled a distance in terms of our improvement journey. The school is in a very strong position with further capacity to improve and be a centre of excellence. There is immense scope for distributing leadership and building leadership skills at all levels and this is fertile ground upon which the new Head Teacher can build. I will of course keep you updated on the new acting Head Teacher appointment as soon as I hear.

All that remains is for me to say that it has been an absolute pleasure working with your child(ren) and yourself as strong partners in our school community and I thank you sincerely for your ongoing support. I will, undoubtedly, miss the school and its vibrant community and I look forward to hearing about future successes and progress in the months and years to come.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Sutherland

Head Teacher