# Nottingham High School headmaster Kevin Fear departs early amid financial challenges



The headmaster of Nottingham High School, Kevin Fear, has departed from his position earlier than expected, following 17 years of service, amid ongoing financial difficulties at the institution. His departure, which took place last month, comes just months before what was anticipated to be his retirement. The school has recently made headlines for having to reduce bursary funding for disadvantaged pupils in the upcoming academic year.

In a statement made shortly before his exit, Mr Fear, whose annual salary was reported to be between £350,000 and £400,000 for the 2022/23 academic year, acknowledged the school's fiscal challenges, stating the importance of aligning the school budget with incoming funds. He attributed the financial issues to several factors, including the government’s revocation of the VAT exemption for private schools, coupled with rises in employer National Insurance and pension contributions.

In an interview with Nottinghamshire Live, Mr Fear expressed disappointment over the plans for his retirement celebration, originally foreseen as a significant event akin to the school's 500th anniversary ball, which featured a large marquee and a carousel. In a subsequent email to staff, he expressed frustration that discussions around his retirement event had "watered down" from earlier promises, which affected his desire to be associated with it.

He remarked, "As time went on a number of suggestions were made but they all seemed to be watering down what was discussed at the time when I was promised a ball to mark my retirement." Ultimately, Mr Fear requested the cancellation of the planned retirement party, feeling that it had deviated too far from what had initially been agreed. He added, "I hope that on the final Friday of term we can at least put on a great event for staff to mark my 25 years of service to the school."

The 25-year veteran of the institution conveyed feelings of being "very disappointed" and "undervalued," wishing for recognition of his contributions to the school over his tenure.

In response to his departure, a spokesperson for Nottingham High School expressed respect for Mr Fear’s decision and gratitude for his years of dedicated service. Paul Spedding has been appointed as acting headmaster during the interim period, ensuring stability before Andrew Holman assumes the role in September.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://nottinghamhigh.co.uk> - This URL provides information about Nottingham High School, including its educational structure and values, but doesn't directly mention the headmaster's departure or financial issues.
2. <https://www.mumsnet.com/talk/private-school/5298280-whats-going-on-at-nottingham-high-school> - This URL discusses concerns and questions about recent events at Nottingham High School, mentioning the departure of headmaster Kevin Fear, but lacks detailed information about financial challenges.
3. <https://www.vacourts.gov/courts/scv/rulesofcourt.pdf> - This document outlines the Supreme Court of Virginia's rules but does not relate to the specific situation at Nottingham High School.
4. <https://www.mass.gov/guide-to-evidence/article-xi-miscellaneous> - This URL focuses on legal evidence guidelines in Massachusetts, which is unrelated to the Nottingham High School situation.
5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vB3shYOXjFY> - This video features a virtual end-of-year assembly by Nottingham High School's then-headmaster Kevin Fear but does not provide current information about his departure or financial difficulties.
6. <https://www.noahwire.com> - Since the source article is not explicitly mentioned online, this URL is referenced as the source but does not provide direct corroboration for the specific claims made about Nottingham High School.
7. <https://www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/private-school-head-demanded-lavish-10101444> - Please view link - unable to able to access data