

April 2018

Dear parent/carers,

I hope you and your family had an enjoyable break over the recent holidays. As you know from the letter forwarded to you just before the Easter weekend, the Department for Education has now formally confirmed Astrea Academy Trust as the new incoming sponsor for Balby Carr.

The Astrea team have been working with us for some time ahead of this announcement, and it is very welcome news that the relationship has now been formalised. Good progress on making improvements to Balby Carr is already being made, and I thought it would be helpful to provide you with some detail on activity already completed or under way.

As you may know, under WCAT, we have had no local governance arrangements in place for some time. To address this Astrea have set up an Interim Local Committee (ILC) to provide governance oversight for the school. The ILC will meet twice every half-term up until the end of the academic year. Once we have formally transferred into Astrea the Trust will further consolidate local governance, including increasing the number of governors through parental involvement and additional representation from the local community.

There has also been significant input from Astrea on day to day teaching and learning, with support from the trust's National Subject Leaders in Maths, English and Science. Astrea's Deputy Directors of Education have also been working closely with us on staff development so that we improve teaching and learning across the board.

I appreciate that the recent period has seen a lot of changes at Balby Carr, but I very strongly believe that joining Astrea marks a fresh start, and paves the way to a much more positive future for all of us.

Please look out for more information to follow on further meetings with parents to discuss progress at our school.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Ashley
Principal
Balby Carr