



**Astrea Academy Trust**  
INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

27 October 2017

Dear parent/carer,

As you may know, Astrea Academy Trust has been identified as the preferred new trust for Balby Carr Academy. We are writing to tell you a little more about Astrea, and how as a family of schools, the trust works.

Very simply, the Astrea commitment is to inspire beyond measure. This core commitment drives everything we do in each of our 18 academies, which include Balby's partner primaries, Hexthorpe and Waverley. Our schools – primary, secondary and all-through – do not subscribe to the 'schooling' stance of a results-driven philosophy. Instead, they believe emphatically that education is about much more than just attainment.

To deliver this, we focus on encouraging and nurturing Resilience, Empathy, Aspiration, Contribution and Happiness in all of our children and young people. Equally as important are the high-expectations we have of the staff in our family. These values and this approach mirrors those of the academy's new leadership team, which has been in place since January 2017 and underpins the improvements that have already been made.

At Astrea we invest heavily in our staff through comprehensive training programmes – this will allow staff at Balby to develop their teaching practice further and improve leadership skills throughout the academy.

The Astrea team has visited Balby on several occasions, and we are very excited to be working with the Balby team and supporting them to make the improvements that are needed. We will work to build on the existing successes of the academy, working closely with staff, governors, and of course yourselves.

We will be hosting a parents evening on 8 November at 6pm to give you an opportunity to hear more about how we work and to ask any questions.

Yours sincerely,

**Libby Nicholas**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Astrea Academy Trust**

**Tom Ashley**  
**Principal**