



9<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parent/Carers,

Firstly, can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your on-going support and for making the start to this new academic year such a positive one for all concerned at Firbeck Academy.

As you may already know, Firbeck Academy is a member of the Nova Education Trust. As a key stakeholder in our Trust, Firbeck Academy works in partnership with all the schools in our trust family to improve the quality of education for your child.

Our aim is to develop amazing schools for our young people, and to help us do that we are introducing a new process called 'Novation'. Novation will look at every aspect of the work we do and develop a long term plan of improvement and development in all our schools.

Over the next 12 months we will involve staff, learners, parents and wider stakeholders in this process and we hope you will find time in your busy lives to support this development and communicate your hopes and expectations.

The goals of Novation have already been set out to staff and include:

- Creating warm and happy schools for all to work and learn in
- To ensure respect and care are at the centre of all actions
- To ensure all trust schools secure the highest levels of national academic achievement (top 5% of all schools)
- To secure Ofsted 'outstanding' verification of standards
- To provide amazing opportunities for all learners in order that they can realise their aspirations

Novation will review every single aspect of school activity and our first critical step is for all of our staff to consider the broad direction of travel that we are proposing. Consequently, the directors of the Trust have given permission for all Trust schools to have an additional INSET day to consider the initial proposals and shape them further.

We therefore intend to have an additional school closure day on:

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

We appreciate the impact this will have on families but we consider that the potential rewards for future school development to be in the long term interests of all families and particularly our learners. Please contact school by telephone on 0115 915 5739 if you wish to discuss this matter further.





Our school is already embracing many key aspects of the 'Novation' philosophy but we know we can do more to improve the standard of education and support your child receives.

Thank you for your anticipated consideration and support over this additional INSET day linked to this exciting development.

Yours sincerely,

**Jason Osprey**  
Head of School

