



15th May 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to provide you with important information regarding the Newark Academy Academic year calendar.

As you may be aware, the Local Authority have undertaken a thorough consultation with Multi Academy Trusts and Secondary and Primary schools across the Nottinghamshire region regarding school holiday patterns. They have proposed that all schools move to a 2-week October Half Term holiday.

After careful consideration, Newark Academy (as part of the Nova Education Trust) will not be moving to a two-week October half term pattern and as such will remain committed to the holiday patterns previously communicated.

The Academic Year calendar at Newark Academy always begins with 4 days of staff INSET normally in and around August bank holiday. However, after careful analysis, some academic years indicate the last day of the year falls on a Monday. This is particularly relevant to **2018/2019**, **2019/2020** and **2022/2023**. Experience tells us that days such as this often impact negatively on whole school attendance and can cause considerable inconvenience for parents and families when planning their summer break.

As such, from next year, we will limit our INSET programme to 3 days allowing for a staggered start to the Academic year 2018/2019 as outlined below:

Friday 31st August 2018 (Year 7, Year 11 and Year 12)

Monday 3rd September 2018 (Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10)

Further staggered start information can be found on our Academy website (live from the 1st June 2018) by downloading the relevant Academic Year calendar which provides parents and carers with detailed holiday pattern information for the next 5 years. This should be hugely beneficial to families and should aid planning and preparation for both school and family life.

I do hope that you find this information informative. Should you have any questions or queries regarding the details outlined above then please do feel free to contact the Academy at your earliest convenience.

Thank you as always for your continued support.

Best wishes

Andy Seymour
Head of School

