



# Prospectus **2021**

**Welcome to Cathedral Academy**

Information for parents and students looking to join the academy in 2021

## Welcome to a unique academy on an exciting journey

Thank you for your interest in our highly aspirational and unique academy.

Our vision is to offer an outstanding educational experience for all of our young people. The academy is on an exciting journey and the improvements we have made are clear to see.

Having secured excellent examination results for progress in 2017, we went on to have even greater success in 2018 and again in 2019, securing our place in the top 10% of schools nationally. These results also place us as the highest performing school in Wakefield for two years running. Our successes were also recognised by the TES when we won the 'Secondary School of the Year' Award in June 2019. We are extremely proud of these phenomenal achievements and are working to ensure Cathedral Academy students enjoy their outstanding education and continue to produce excellent results.

In addition to the Cathedral Academy pathway, which offers a broad and balanced academic curriculum, we are also very proud of our

CAPA Juniors offering. This is for students who have a real desire to pursue a career in the arts industry. CAPA Juniors gives them a solid grounding in this field whilst still receiving a formal education. Regardless of career ambition, all students are encouraged to explore the benefits the Arts can bring to their confidence and personal growth.

This is an exciting time to join Cathedral Academy – each member of our community looks forward to welcoming you and sharing more.

**Mr Rob Marsh**  
Principal



*"We value each child as an individual, and work hard to prepare them for future success."*

**- Mr Rob Marsh,  
Principal**

## Welcome from the Trinity MAT CEO

As CEO of the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) I have genuine pleasure in welcoming you to Cathedral Academy. Our growing MAT family contains a variety of institutions, from primary to post-16 education, ranging in size from 180 to 1800 students. Due to the phenomenal success of Trinity Academy Halifax, the academy is also the lead school in two high profile initiatives – The Trinity Teaching School Alliance (TTSA) and the West Yorkshire Maths Hub. Both of these accolades reflect how the academy is at the forefront of the latest developments, and bring a number of benefits to students.

I am committed to continuous improvement for all schools in our MAT and whilst success is celebrated, the next step is always to look at what can be improved – both for students and staff. The trust will continue to grow, and we will strive to provide young people with the highest standard of education to ensure a solid foundation for their future aspirations.

**Mr Michael Gosling**  
CEO



*"The school has benefited enormously from its relationship with Trinity Multi-Academy Trust. This has been central to improving teachers' skills and improving leadership at all levels."*

**- Ofsted**



## Christian values

**Our Christian values of Empathy, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility form the basis of everything we do. As Wakefield's only Church of England secondary school, we are proud of our Christian ethos which supports every child to succeed, regardless of personal faith.**

We have strong links with Wakefield Cathedral and local parishes and there are regular opportunities to explore the Christian faith. We work closely with the Diocese of Leeds, particularly when celebrating the key Christian festivals. We are an inclusive academy, welcoming staff and students of all faiths and none. We believe that our Christian values lay the foundations for success and ensure our young people develop into well rounded, respectful adults.

These values underpin our daily routines and relate to all aspects of our curriculum including our teaching of British Values. They can be experienced in everything from the calm, purposeful atmosphere at the academy and how our students deal with one another and guests, to the way we celebrate key events as an academy family and support others locally and internationally. For example, students have raised funds to help underprivileged and orphaned children in Uganda as part of the Kids Club Kampala.

*"Everything is possible for one who believes."*

**Mark 9 v23**

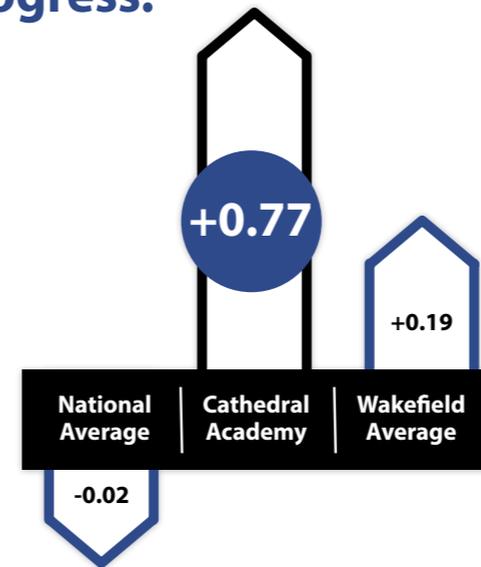


## Excellent student progress and success

**As the highest performing school in Wakefield, we are extremely proud of our staff and students. Results have been consistently in the top 10% of schools nationally for the last three years. These achievements were recognised by the TES in June 2019 when Cathedral Academy was announced as the 'Secondary School of the Year'! The judges praised staff for their 'remarkable' achievements stating that "This school has shown huge progress in a very short space of time".**

We are a non-selective academy and we welcome students of all abilities. The Ofsted framework uses a measure called 'Progress 8'. This measure demonstrates how well a school can support students to achieve beyond the levels they are predicted from their starting point in Year 7.

**Cathedral Academy is in the top 10% of schools in the country for student progress.**



## Aiming high with a broad and balanced curriculum

**Our young people enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum, ensuring that they are prepared for future success at post-16 and in the workplace.**

We have a culture of high ambitions, where students are supported and challenged to achieve their full potential. High quality teaching is at the heart of everything we do, and our open door policy reflects the high standards of behaviour in the classroom.

Students who are on the CAPA Juniors pathway follow a tailored curriculum – more information regarding this can be found on page 10.

### Years 7 – 9

In Years 7 – 9 students are introduced to a wide range of topics and disciplines, with a clear focus on securing the core literacy and numeracy skills needed to succeed.

### Years 10 – 11

From Year 10 onwards, students commence their formal qualifications. Our aim is to ensure that young people gain the strong suite of qualifications needed for their next phase of their education or training.

Students study a core of standard qualifications, including Maths, English and Science, and at this stage are able to pick from a suite of options based on their pathway and career ambitions.

### Maths and English

Maths and English lay the foundations for success across all wider subjects. We place a strong emphasis upon achievement in these subjects, and our results are significantly above national average. As part of Trinity Multi-Academy Trust, we access the support of the West Yorkshire Maths Hub. This is a

nationally renowned initiative that provides resources and expertise to schools and supports outstanding results in Mathematics.

### Support for students with additional needs

We are proud of the support offered to our young people who have additional needs. We offer tailored support, enabling them to be an active and successful part of our academy community. Our Language and Learning faculty has a range of highly skilled and experienced staff who provide additional support to students who need it.

Parents of students who may have additional needs are encouraged to arrange a meeting with our staff so that we can discuss these needs and explore a tailored package of support.

### British Values and Prevent

We are committed to ensuring that students are prepared for life in modern Britain and we take our duties to guard young people against extremism very seriously. Students follow a comprehensive programme that helps them to understand important topics such as democracy. Ofsted commented: "Through a comprehensive schedule of assemblies, pupils learn about life in modern democratic Britain, about how rules and laws benefit society and the advantages and challenges brought about by multiculturalism in modern Britain."



# A Curriculum for Life: ensuring an academic and personal education

**We offer an exciting range of possibilities outside of the classroom through our INVOLVE programme. This encompasses all of the extra-curricular clubs and groups that students can join. There is something for every student and we ask all students to get involved in an activity of their choice.**

The INVOLVE programme is focussed on Phase 1 (KS3) and provides a wide range of opportunities such as Creative Writing Club, The Archbishop of York Award, Eco Club, Mindfulness Exploration, Debating Team, STEM Asteroid Impact and School Press Team to name just a few!

## Sports

We have a large range of sporting clubs and activities. Students can choose to join one to stay fit and have fun, or may choose to play competitively. We participate in a wide range of sporting fixtures and in recent years we have been particularly successful in rugby, football and netball.



## Leadership opportunities

Our Student Leaders represent their fellow students and provide a clear sense of 'student voice', helping to shape the future of our school community. Students in Year 11 have the opportunity to apply for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl. These opportunities enable our young people to develop their leadership skills in preparation for their roles as young leaders of the future.

## Visits and trips

We believe strongly in the value of educational trips and visits, providing opportunities for students to expand their knowledge and broaden their horizons, allowing them to learn in a way that is not always possible within the classroom. A wide range of trips take place, both within the UK and internationally!



## CAPA Juniors: a unique pathway for those planning a career in the Arts

CAPA Juniors is an exciting offer for young people with a real desire to pursue an education and career pathway in the Arts. CAPA Juniors is a unique arts education provision. It is delivered at Cathedral Academy within our facilities by our excellent and dedicated staff. Each student on the CAPA Juniors programme follows an enhanced secondary curriculum with additional Dance, Drama, Singing, Music and Creative Media training. Students are however part of the Cathedral Academy family and the pathway runs alongside a traditional curriculum where students will study the full range of subjects including English, Maths, Science and a Modern Foreign Language, to ensure all young people have the benefit of an academic curriculum.

### Performing Arts studies will include:

Dance – including contemporary, urban, ballet and choreography lessons

Drama – including voice, scripted and devising lessons

Music/Singing – including instrumental, singing, music technology lessons

Creative Media – including audio and videography lessons

CAPA Juniors have a range of enrichment and performance opportunities both at Cathedral Academy in our professional industry standard facilities and also in regional and national events.



The Professional industry standard facilities at Cathedral Academy include:

- Studio Theatre
- Dance Studio
- Two Drama Studios
- Three Rehearsal Rooms
- Singing Studio
- Music Room Practice Rooms
- Creative Media Suite
- Costume Workshop

***“Will my child benefit from these facilities if they are not looking to apply to CAPA Juniors?”***

Our full academy community benefit from our state-of-the-art facilities. All students regardless of pathway are encouraged to participate in Performing Arts experiences and there are regular opportunities for all students to take part in trips and various performances.



## Ensuring our young people succeed

The quality of the teaching and learning we provide is consistently excellent. In the last three years we have seen further improvements across all subjects, and in particular with English and Maths, the subjects which lay the foundations for success.

Teaching and learning is at the heart of everything we do. We have a culture of high expectations for both students and staff. Teachers undergo a huge range of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) to ensure that they are at the forefront of the latest developments in practice.

We understand that when students enjoy lessons, they will learn and achieve more. Teachers inspire our young people, and offer a vast range of opportunities inside and outside of the classroom.

This is underpinned by high expectations of our students. By joining our community, students and parents commit to reflecting their pride in this by:

### Maintaining excellent standards of uniform

A smart uniform is crucial to success, ensuring students are in the correct mindset for learning. All students are required to meet the standards set out in our Uniform Policy, reflecting how proud students are to be part of our academy community.

### Rewarding success

Our Behaviour for Learning Policy is followed by all staff. This outlines how we will reward students when they excel, and the consequences of not meeting high expectations. A system of Achievement Points and Behaviour Points helps students to stay on track with their behaviour and succeed.

### Tracking progress and setting challenging targets

All students receive appropriate and challenging targets, and are supported to achieve these. Parents receive regular reports demonstrating progress, and are supported to work in partnership with us to help students to achieve, and go beyond, these targets.



## Preparing to join our academy community

### Transition from primary school

We recognise that the move from primary school to secondary school is a big one - often for parents and carers as much as for the students! Our extensive transition programme allows us to make the process a positive and exciting experience for our students. Year 6 students join us over several days in the summer term to experience a carefully tailored and exciting curriculum plan, allowing them to gain a real insight into being a Cathedral Academy student. Our positive links with primary schools in the local area and beyond, allow us to create a seamless transition for your child. Students entering Year 7 settle in quickly and with ease.

### Leadership opportunities

We are proud of our pastoral care. A happy student is one that can succeed, and we provide a wide range of support for students. Every student has a dedicated Form Tutor and Achievement Leader, who are there to assist students in times of need, and of course are key to celebrating personal success! We also have a wide network of Student Support Teams, including Attendance and Admissions and Behaviour and Inclusion. These teams provide targeted support where necessary, and intervention when we identify students that may benefit from particular support inside and outside of the academy.



*"The opportunity to become a Student Leader helped me to develop my confidence and skills such as debate, confidence and leadership."*

**- Head Boy**

## Admissions Policy 2021/2022

### 1 Admissions arrangements

1.1 Cathedral Academy is a comprehensive academy predominantly serving its locality in central Wakefield. It is part of the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust. The policy on admissions to Cathedral Academy is determined by the academy's governing body. The administration of admissions is the responsibility of the School Admissions Team within Wakefield Council's Children and Young People Service.

### 2 Context for admissions

2.1 The published Admission Number (PAN) for Cathedral Academy is 210.

2.2 90% of the annual intake for the academy follows a broad and balanced curriculum on Cathedral Academy's Main Curriculum Pathway. The main pathway leads to a broad range of qualifications allowing students to access a wide range of career options and further education. The academy also has a particular flair for and specialism in the Performing Arts. 10% of our intake are selected by aptitude for performing arts and follow a specialist provision called CAPA Juniors. Students interested in this pathway will follow a wide range of subjects and also spend time focused on Dance, Drama and Music.

### 3 Expressing a preference

3.1 For admission to Cathedral Academy (including CAPA Juniors), applications from Wakefield residents should be made on Wakefield's Common Application Form which is available from The School Admissions Team, Room 42, County Hall, Wakefield, WF1 2QL.

3.2 Applications, at any time, from residents outside the Wakefield District should be made in accordance with the applicant's "home" LA's Common Application Form.

3.3 Applications for CAPA Juniors must also complete a Supplementary Information Form which is available from the school and should be returned to Cathedral Academy.

### 4 Deadline for applications

4.1 All applications received will be considered in the following order:

1. Applications received by the closing date in the normal admissions round:

- for secondary applications the closing date is 31 October 2020; and

2. For late applications received between the closing date for the normal admissions round and the end of the summer term the following date will apply:

- applications for secondary places received up to and including 23 November 2020 will be accepted as if they had been received by the closing date;

4.2 Applications received after these dates will be regarded as late applications and will be considered after all applications received on time.

### 5 Calendar for Admission for CAPA Juniors

5.1 *End of July 2020*

Cathedral's supplementary Information Form available online, for download from the Academy website or as a paper copy from Reception.

*September 2020*

An Open Evening Event will be held – date to be confirmed.

*Friday 2 October 2020*

Deadline for receipt of the Supplementary Information Form.

*Friday 9 October 2020*

Auditions will be held for applicants whose Supplementary Information Form is received by the deadline. Applicants will be invited to attend.

In line with the School Admissions Code, parents will be informed of the outcome of the audition prior to the deadline for the Common Application Form, although this does not equate to a guarantee of a place.

### 6 Allocation of places

6.1 If the number of preferences to Cathedral Academy does not exceed the Admission Number, all preferences will be met. If there are more applications for admission than there are places available, preference will be given in the following order:

a) Children in public care (looked after children), or a child who was previously looked after or fostered under an arrangement made by the Local Authority (see note 14.1);

b) Children who live in the school's catchment area, who have brothers and sisters attending the school at the time of admission (see note 14.5);

c) Children who show a particular aptitude for one or more of the performing arts: dance; drama; music. This will be determined through an audition process (see note 14.3). Students who are allocated on this basis will be placed on the CAPA Juniors Pathway (see note 14.2). **This criterion applies only for 10% of the intake (21 students);**

d) Other children who live in the school's catchment area;

e) Children who have brothers or sisters in attendance at the school;

f) Other children, with priority being given to those living nearest to the school.

6.2 In all cases "live" means the child's permanent home address. A child is normally regarded as living with a parent or carer and the LA will use the parent or carer's address for admission purposes. An applicant cannot lodge a child with a friend or relation (eg. for childcare purposes) in order to gain a place at a school.

6.3 For admissions purposes only one address can be used as a child's permanent address. Where a child resides with more than one parent/carer, at different addresses, the LA will use the preference expressed by the parent/carer at the address where the child lives the majority of the time during the school week as the main place of residence

6.4 When decisions have to be made between children satisfying the same criterion (except in the case of Criterion c), children living nearest to the school, measured as the crow flies, have priority. The distance measured will be from the central (centroid) point of the applicant's property to the central (centroid) point of the school's ground. Measurement will be made using the LA's in-house admission system and mapping software.

6.5 Where there is more than one application from a postal address contained within a block of flats, places will be decided by random allocation. If two or more pupils live equidistant from the school, the distance each pupil lives by road from the preferred school will be measured and the place offered to the pupil who lives nearest by this means. In the event of this being equal, places will then be decided by random allocation.

6.6 Where the admission of siblings from a multiple birth (eg twins, triplets) would cause the school to rise above its Planned Admission Number (PAN), all of the children from the multiple birth will be admitted.

6.7 Children will be placed in the appropriate category depending upon their circumstances at the closing date for receiving applications for admission to Cathedral Academy. Changes in address will be accepted in accordance with the provisions of the Secondary Co-ordination Scheme. In cases where there is an anticipated change in circumstances, documentary evidence will be required.

In the event of any category being over-subscribed, places will be offered in the order of priority (a)-(f) detailed above.

### 7. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan

7.1 Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan are dealt with under a different mechanism. Any child with a school named on their statement or Education, Health and Care Plan will automatically gain a place at the school named in the statement or Education, Health and Care Plan via the statementing process. Any child with a statement of special education needs or Education, Health and Care Plan who is admitted to a Cathedral Academy will be counted against the school's admission number.

7.2 Special Educational Needs is a term used if a child has difficulty accessing the curriculum, which may mean that he/she may need to have some form of specialist provision made for them in order to learn. It may be a general learning difficulty, an emotional, behavioural, sensory or physical disability or it may be a difficulty related to communication or speech and language. Further information can be obtained from the Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Team at Wakefield Council or

the Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).

### 8. The Offer of a Place at a school

8.1 Decisions will be posted 2nd class to parents on the 1 March 2021.

8.2 Parents who have applied electronically will be able to access their offer of a school place via Wakefield LA's on-line website after 12.00 midnight on the respective offer date.

### 9. Point of Entry

9.1 Pupils will start school in the in-take year (i.e. Y7 for secondary schools) on the first day the school is open following 1 September 2021.

### 10. Waiting Lists

10.1 Where a pupil is refused a place they will be added to the waiting list for Cathedral Academy in accordance with the provisions of the Secondary Co-ordination Scheme or In-Year Co-ordination Scheme.

10.2 Places will be allocated from the waiting list when the number of pupils in the relevant year group falls below the admission number. Waiting lists will be kept in strict priority order against the oversubscription criteria above.

10.3 The waiting list will be reviewed and revised each time a child is added to or removed from the waiting list and/or when a child's changed circumstances will affect their order of priority for a school place.

10.4 The waiting list will be established on the offer day and will be maintained up to the 31 August 2021. Any parent wishing to be placed on the waiting list for the subsequent academic year will have to reapply for that academic year.

### 11. In-Year Admissions

11.1 All applications made outside the normal admissions round (i.e. in-year applications) for Cathedral Academy should be made on the

Wakefield's Common Application Form, which is available from the School Admissions Team, Room 42, County Hall, Wakefield, WF1 2QL. Applications will be processed in accordance with the "In Year Co-ordination Scheme". Parents can express up to 5 school preferences. The Supplementary Information Form, which is available from Cathedral Academy, must also be completed for all applications for CAPA Juniors.

11.2 Where there are sufficient places, an application will normally be agreed. The Admission Number for a school is set for the school's intake year. As a general rule, this admission number then remains with that year group as it moves through the school. There may be exceptions, for example, if accommodation in a school is removed, then the admission number may change for subsequent year groups.

11.3 If a place is not available, a refusal letter is sent outlining the right of appeal. If the application is from a Wakefield resident then a place will be allocated at the next nearest community and voluntary controlled school with places. Should the child be already attending a Wakefield school then no school will be offered as an alternative. The child's name will be added to the waiting list for the school in the order against the Admissions Policy above. All waiting lists are re-ranked when new applicants have been added. Should a vacancy arise at the school, the place will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list.

### 12. Fair Access Protocol

12.1 Wakefield LA has agreed a Fair Access Protocol with its secondary schools. This means that, in some circumstances, pupils defined in the Protocol will have a higher priority for admission to schools and/or year groups which are already full, than all other pupils seeking admission to that school. Full details of the Protocol can be obtained from Wakefield LA.

### 13. False Information

13.1 Where the LA has made an offer of a place at Cathedral Academy on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent which has effectively denied a place to a child with a stronger claim to a place at the school, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

13.2 Where a child starts attending the school on the basis of fraudulent or intentionally misleading information the place may be withdrawn depending on the length of time that the child has been at school.

13.3 Where a place or an offer has been withdrawn the parent will be asked to submit a new application form. This new application form will then be considered afresh against the relevant admissions policy and co-ordination scheme.

13.4 It is for the parent/carer to satisfy Wakefield LA of their circumstances, as they apply to the admission criteria at the time of the application.

### 14. Explanatory Notes

14.1 Children in Public Care

This refers to children who are:

- subject to a care order made by the courts under section 31 of the Children Act 1989 – for the courts to grant a care order they have to be satisfied that a child is suffering or would suffer 'significant harm' without one;

- Children who are accommodated by the local authority on a voluntary basis under section 20 of the Children Act 1989; and

- Children who have been adopted from Local Authority care, children with a residency order and those with special guardianship immediately following being Looked After will all be included within the higher priority for looked-after children.

### 14.2 CAPA Juniors Pathway

The academy will admit one CAPA Juniors class per academic year. Places in that class will be filled through a combination of students who meet the oversubscription criteria 6.1(c) above and have shown an interest in the performing arts as a career (up to 21 students) and then filled with students who meet criterion 6.1(a-b and d-f) above.

### 14.3 Audition process for CAPA Juniors

The audition process will take place in October 2020. Parents or carers interested in applying for a place on the CAPA Juniors pathway should contact the academy directly and ask to be added to the mailing list for further information.

### 14.4 Catchment Areas

Wakefield LA believes it is important that schools should serve their local communities and so each one has its own catchment area. However, parents are required to express a preference, stating their choice of school, even if this is within their catchment area.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure that there will be a place for every child in its catchment area school, it cannot be guaranteed that this will always be the case. Cathedral Academy will serve largely its own catchment area through this admissions policy.

If parents/carers are in any doubt about their catchment area they can find out which school is their local school through the Wakefield LA website using catchment area search. Alternatively you could contact the school directly to find out.

### 14.5 Brothers and Sisters

This category includes children with brothers or sisters (including step-brothers or sisters residing at the same address) of statutory school age, living at the same address, in attendance at the same school, or a school on the same site, on the date of admission.

### 14.6 Families Living Outside the District Boundary

Children from families living outside the Wakefield Metropolitan District boundary will be considered alongside those who live within the Wakefield Metropolitan District.

### 14.7 Address

Wakefield LA will investigate any queries about addresses and, depending on what is found the offer of a school place may be withdrawn. When an offer is made, it is assumed the parental address will be the same in the following September as is held on the LA's records. If a parent plans to move or has moved house, the parent must let us know immediately. If the house move is after the 6 January 2021, the parent must tell the LA the new address. The date of the move may affect the category of the child and the LA may have to offer the child a place at another school. If the parent fails to tell Wakefield LA that they have moved, the LA will still consider the application under the new address and the offer of a school place may be withdrawn or the LA may offer a place at another school.



**WINNER**  
TES Secondary  
School of the Year  
2019 Award



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