



"Trinity Academy Cathedral is a school with a very special atmosphere and sense of purpose."

- Ofsted



SIAMS

Excellent 2020

Prospectus **2024**

Welcome to Trinity Academy Cathedral

Information for parents and students looking to join the academy in 2024



CONTENTS

- 02 Welcome
- 04 Christian values
- 05 Excellent student progress and success
- 06 Top Marks
- 07 Aiming high with a broad and balanced curriculum
- 08 A Curriculum for Life: ensuring an academic and personal education
- 10 CAPA Juniors: a unique pathway for those planning a career in the Arts
- 12 Ensuring our young people succeed
- 13 Preparing to join our academy community
- 15 Applying for a place

"We strive to make our school a place where all members feel a deep sense of belonging".

**- Anna Gillinder,
Principal**



Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to a highly aspirational and unique academy

Thank you for your interest in our very special school; a place where we truly believe 'everything is possible'. Our vision is to offer a world-class educational experience for all our young people. The academy is on an exciting journey and we are very proud of the incredible achievements of our staff and students. We have achieved excellent exam results year on year, securing our place in the top 10% of schools for academic progress and consistently making us the highest performing school in Wakefield. These life-changing exam results are achieved as a result of the industrious efforts of our students, as they engage with our broad and knowledge-rich curriculum, delivered by highly skilled, expert teachers who are passionate about their subjects.

We also invest significantly in the personal development of our students and ensure excellent pastoral care for every child as they move through their secondary school journey. This powerful combination of academic rigor, high expectations, alongside compassionate care for every individual has been recognised time after time by visitors and inspectors. In 2019 we won the TES 'Secondary School of the Year' award giving us national recognition for our work. In 2020, we achieved the highest grade for a Church of England school under the SIAMS framework, who awarded us Excellent in all areas. We are delighted that when Ofsted conducted their inspection in May 2022, they graded us outstanding in every category. And in summer 2023 we were one of only a handful of schools nationally awarded the World Class Quality mark, recognising the incredible attributes of our students. These achievements demonstrate the phenomenal impact of the combined work of governors, staff, students and parents. We continue to develop our outstanding provision and we would be delighted to welcome you into our community

If you join us, there are two potential academic pathways to consider: the Cathedral main pathway and the CAPA Juniors pathway. The first offers our broad and balanced academic curriculum; the latter is an exciting variation that we are very proud of. It is aimed at students who have a real desire to pursue a career in the Performing 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 benefit the Arts can bring to their confidence and growth.

This is an exciting time to join Trinity Academy Cathedral – we look forward to welcoming you and sharing more about what it means to be part of this wonderful community.

Anna Gillinder | Principal

Welcome from the Trinity MAT CEO

In 2015, when the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) was established, our brief was a simple one. Whilst the intervening period of time has seen numerous different challenges, one thing has remained constant: We are determined to make a positive difference, on as wide a scale as possible, where it matters most. That is as complicated as we allow it to become. The Trust now contains eleven institutions, catering for ages 4 to 18, across five local authorities, with exciting programmes like Trinity Scholars and Earthshot. It also incorporates White Rose Education, an organisation that has improved the life chances of countless young people around the world, and the West Yorkshire Maths Hub – as well as working to support thousands of staff regionally through our Trinity Institute of Education outreach work. Our journey has taken us a long way; our ambition for young people, coupled with our desire to continually improve, tell us that this is just the start. For parents seeking educational excellence with an exciting broad extra curriculum offer for their child/children, we warmly welcome to Trinity.



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.

Excellent pastoral care walks in tandem with phenomenal academic progress.



There is no compromise on breadth of opportunity, as a result pupils make outstanding progress.



This academy's gift to its pupils is life-lasting and life enhancing. It gives them the keys to their future.

- SIAMS Inspection Feb 2020

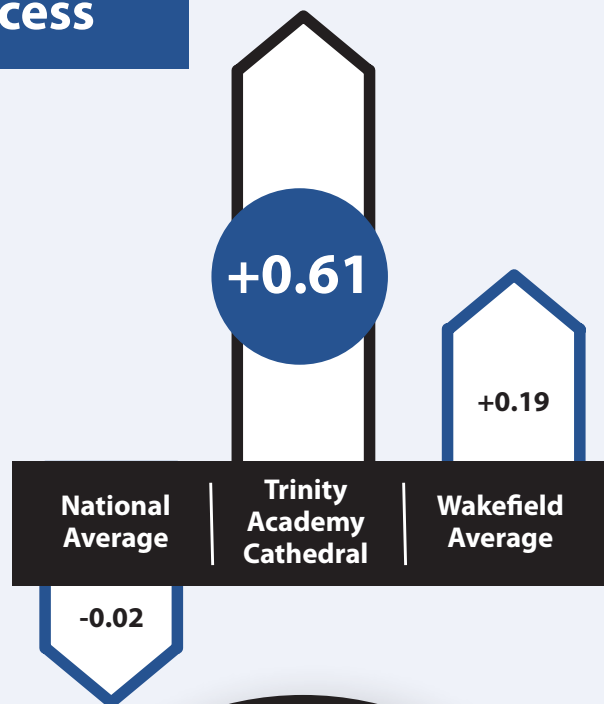
Excellent student progress and success

As one of the highest performing schools in Wakefield, we are extremely proud of our staff and students. Results have been consistently in the top 10% of schools nationally, and were once again in 2022. Our achievements were recognised by the TES in June 2019 when Trinity Academy Cathedral was announced as the 'Secondary School of the Year', and again in 2022 when Ofsted rated the school as 'outstanding' in all areas! The judges from the TES 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 Department for Education 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.



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

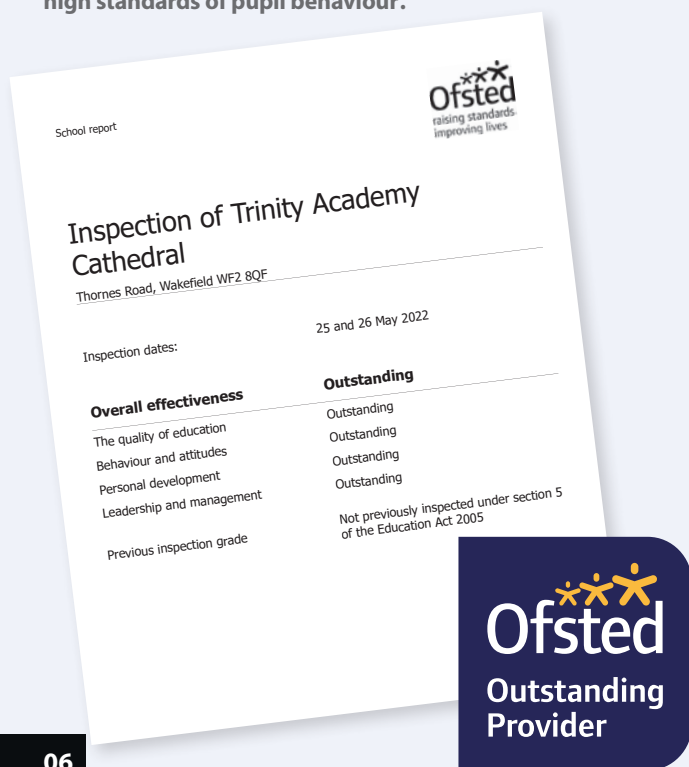


Top Marks!

Only the very best schools in the country, approximately 15%, are graded as 'Outstanding' by the national schools inspectorate: Ofsted. Therefore, we were delighted when they visited Trinity Academy Cathedral in May 2022 and graded us as outstanding in all areas!

This amazing achievement follows other accolades that demonstrate very highest the quality of provision that we are able to offer. In 2019, we were awarded the TES Secondary School of the Year and in 2020 we were graded as 'Excellent' by SIAMS Church of England Schools Inspection Team. These awards, along with our continued success in exam performance over a period of the past 8 years demonstrate exactly who we are, what we can offer and our ambition to provide the very best experience for our young people and families.

In the recent Ofsted inspection report, the inspectors commented that our academy is a school with 'a very special atmosphere and sense of purpose', going on to say that 'pupils have access to a high quality, knowledge-rich curriculum' and that there are 'very high standards of pupil behaviour'.



These are fantastic reflections of the academic rigour and expectations that we have around behaviour and attitude of all students. We are also delighted that Ofsted found strength in our pastoral care and safeguarding systems also, along with our curriculum and provision for the personal development of our young people. They said that the school's **'approach to the personal development of pupils is exemplary. Their vision for all pupils to have belief in themselves, and to develop strong character traits, is embedded in the day-to-day offer'** and also that there is **'a meticulous culture of vigilance across all aspects of safeguarding'**.

For five inspectors to visit our school for two full days and witness this amazing provision and practice was a rewarding experience for all staff and students who have worked so hard to reach these heights.



“

At the heart of the school, leaders have established comprehensive systems of pastoral care and personal development.

- Ofsted

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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 and White Rose Education. These renowned initiatives provide 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 focused 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!

"The quality of planning and the school's approach to classroom delivery supports all pupils in their learning."

- Ofsted



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 Trinity Academy Cathedral 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, vocal, music and creative media training. Students are however part of the Trinity Academy Cathedral 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/vocal – 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 Trinity Academy Cathedral in our professional industry standard facilities and also in regional and national events.

The professional industry standard facilities at Trinity Academy Cathedral 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.





"Pupils are enthusiastic participants in the impressive array of sporting, cultural and creative activities on offer at the school."

- Ofsted

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:

Attendance

First and foremost, we expect students to have excellent attendance, so that they benefit fully from our outstanding provision. Research shows that poor attendance has a very detrimental effect on educational outcomes: for every 5% of time missed in school students drop a full grade in their GCSEs! We expect every student to strive for 100% attendance at school.

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 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

”





*"the curriculum
is led and delivered
by expert staff who
are adept in the way
they teach."*

- Ofsted



“Pupils feel safe and very well supported”
- Ofsted

Applying for a place

Trinity Academy Cathedral is a heavily oversubscribed school; although we would like to offer a place to every child who wants to come to here, that sadly isn't possible. We admit 210 students per year into Year 7 and these places are awarded strictly in line with the terms of our Admissions Policy, which is available to view on our website at cathedral.trinitymat.org

Fair Banding Assessment (FBA)

For Year 7 entry into Trinity Academy Cathedral in 2024, parents/ carers will need to register their child to sit a Fair Banding Assessment (FBA). The assessment is not a traditional entrance exam which children either pass or fail. It exists to ensure that our intake exactly matches the ability profile of the children applying by assessing each child's cognitive ability, this means that they have a fair chance of securing a place at Trinity Academy Cathedral. Applicants who sit the FBA are considered for admission first. Any applicants who choose not to sit the FBA will be 'non-banded' and will be ranked in order of priority (after all of the banded applicants), with the level of priority then determined with reference to the oversubscription criteria (see the Admissions Policy relating to your school of preference). Please visit the Admissions page on our website to view our Fair Banding video for a full explanation of how Fair Banding works.

Important note - An application to sit our FBA is not an application to attend the academy. Parents will also have to include Trinity Academy Cathedral as one of their five preferences on the local authority's Common Application Form (CAF) which must be submitted to the local authority on or before 31 October 2023. Please refer to your local authority's website for information on how to apply for a place at a secondary school.

Applications for CAPA Juniors must also complete a Supplementary Information Form which is available on the school website/from reception and should be returned to Trinity Academy Cathedral by Monday 25 September.

**Register for
Fair Banding
Assessment by
25 September
2023**



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