



# BEACON

*shining a light on our school*

## THE TEENAGE BRAIN NEEDS...



### SELF-BELIEF AND MOTIVATION

**'A voice is a human gift;  
it should be cherished and used.'**

- Margaret Atwood

Happy New Year! We wish you the very best for 2024.

To ensure our school is a place of consistent calm, focus and purpose, these four principles are used in our language with every student, in every lesson, every day: **be ready; be kind; be committed; be your best.**

In each interaction, we strive to ensure students are clearly aware of behaviours that support our school values and should be repeated; this process is made easier when this language is shared and used by all.

### EXPECTATIONS FOR *Excellence*

#### 1 BE READY

Attend, fully equipped, on time to every lesson. Follow instructions first time, every time.

#### 2 BE KIND

Uphold our school values, demonstrating kindness and impeccable manners to all.

#### 3 BE COMMITTED

Commit fully to your learning; work hard and persevere, continually reflecting on feedback and acting to improve.

#### 4 BE YOUR BEST

Strive for excellence, engaging fully with school life; be confident in your voice and proud of your achievements.

*"Everything is possible for one who believes." - Mark 9:23*

### EXPECTATIONS FOR *Excellence*

#### 1 BE READY

Attend, fully equipped, on time to every lesson. Follow instructions first time, every time.

#### 3 BE COMMITTED

Commit fully to your learning; work hard and persevere, continually reflecting on feedback and acting to improve.

#### 2 BE KIND

Uphold our school values, demonstrating kindness and impeccable manners to all.

#### 4 BE YOUR BEST

Strive for excellence, engaging fully with school life, be confident in your voice and proud of your achievements.

### Trinity Academy Cathedral: BfL Policy



Achievements	Name	C1 Verbal Warning	C2 Negative Behaviour Point	C3 Detention and a note in your planner

**Empathy, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility**

A huge part of the work we do at Trinity Academy Cathedral is helping our students use their voices to become courageous advocates for important issues and contribute meaningfully to society,

In this edition of the Beacon, we are excited to share some recent examples of student voice and some of the upcoming opportunities students will have to have their voices heard, celebrated and to help them spark positive change in the world around them.

#### ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- Remembrance
- Student Voice and the Charter
- Festive Activities in Wakefield



# SPOTLIGHT ON Remembrance

On Friday, 10th November 2023,  
Trinity Academy Cathedral stood still.



Our Y11 Student Leadership Team (L to R: Isaac, Ashton, Nancy, Mya, Danica) and Maranata of Year 8 all spoke magnificently as part of our Act of Remembrance. Maranata favoured us with a reading of the enclosed poem, 'Try to Praise the Mutilated World, by Adam Zagajewski, a Ukranian-born Polish poet. As the poem suggests, though our world is imperfect and frequently scarred by the effects of conflict, we must always strive to appreciate the beauty and hope it offers us.

The speech bubbles contain some of our students' observations on our Act of Remembrance:

## Try to Praise the Mutilated World

### ADAM ZAGAJEWSKI - TRANSLATED BY CLARE CAVANAGH

Try to praise the mutilated world.  
Remember June's long days,  
and wild strawberries, drops of rosé wine.  
The nettles that methodically overgrow  
the abandoned homesteads of exiles.  
You must praise the mutilated world.  
You watched the stylish yachts and ships;  
one of them had a long trip ahead of it,  
while salty oblivion awaited others.  
You've seen the refugees going nowhere,  
you've heard the executioners sing joyfully.  
You should praise the mutilated world.  
Remember the moments when we were together  
in a white room and the curtain fluttered.  
Return in thought to the concert where music flared.  
You gathered acorns in the park in autumn  
and leaves eddied over the earth's scars.  
Praise the mutilated world  
and the gray feather a thrush lost,  
and the gentle light that strays and vanishes  
and returns.

'...to spend time as a community and reflect.'

'...to remember the sacrifice... to respect and honour the fallen.'



'...to show solidarity... to never forget.'

'...to remind us that people gave their own lives to save us and our country.'



# STUDENT VOICE: *The Charter*

Designed to outline the core principles, values and behaviours shared by students, staff, parents and governors of Trinity Academy Cathedral, the Charter has been created and is currently undergoing a consultation process.

Chaired by members of our Y11 Student Leadership Team, a panel of students from each year group have shared their insights and explained how the Charter could be further developed.

Below are some of the observations students made on being presented with the Charter:

Y11: "It is important to have a constant reminder of our values that everyone can look to.

However, it is currently quite wordy and it is not as visually engaging as it should be. It should make you look when you walk down a corridor."

Y10: "It is useful having all of the messages and information you need in one place.

"Some students may struggle to understand all of the vocabulary so we need to make sure it is clear for everyone."

Y9: "It was important to discuss and share ideas with other Y9s and see what we agreed and disagreed on."

"We could share our opinion freely and being asked made us feel valued by school."

Y8: "It was good that school involved us so we had input on how the Charter was made."

"The Charter will have a positive impact on school if students follow it."

Y7: "The Charter tells us the values we need to uphold at Cathedral. There were some complicated words which we have asked to simplify."

"The Charter will allow next year's Y7 to understand how to represent our school."

We look forward to the release of an updated version of the Charter, taking these views into account, in the coming weeks and sharing it with you in our next edition of the Beacon.