



Prospectus 2027

Everything is possible for one who believes.

cathedral.trinitymat.org



 Trinity MAT

A young man in a dark blue school suit with a blue tie and a Trinity Academies logo on his pocket stands next to a smiling female staff member with long blonde hair. She is wearing a blue blazer and a lanyard that says 'TRINITY CATHEDRAL STAFF'. They are both looking at a document held by a hand in the foreground. The background is a lush green hedge.

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



A warm welcome

Welcome to our aspirational and unique academy, where we believe that everything is possible.

We are committed to delivering a **world-class education** and are proud of the achievements of our students and staff. Consistently strong exam results place us in the **top 10%** of schools nationally for academic progress and among the **highest** performing in Wakefield. These outcomes are driven by students' dedication and a broad, knowledge-rich curriculum taught by passionate and expert teachers.

Alongside academic success, we place great importance on personal development and exceptional pastoral care. Our accolades include the **TES Secondary School of the Year award**, **Outstanding Ofsted** ratings, the highest **SIAMS** judgement, and the **World Class Schools Quality Mark**. Most recently, our Inclusion Leader received a **National Teaching Award**, highlighting our long-standing commitment to student wellbeing and success.

Students joining our academy can choose between two pathways: the **Cathedral main pathway**, offering a broad academic curriculum, or **CAPA Juniors**, designed for those passionate about pursuing a career in the performing arts.



Anna Gillinder
Principal

“Trinity Academy Cathedral is a school where we believe **everything is possible.**”

Welcome to Trinity

In 2015, when the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust 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 3 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 you to Trinity.



Michael Gosling
Chief Executive Officer,
Trinity Multi-Academy Trust

“*The ethos of Trinity MAT is simple – to make a **positive difference** to the lives of as many young people as possible.*”



Celebrating excellence across our school community



Pearson National Teaching Awards

Trinity MAT colleagues have been nationally recognised through Pearson National Teaching Awards.



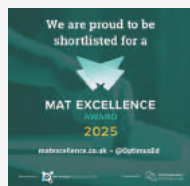
World Class Schools Quality Mark

Many Trinity MAT schools have achieved the prestigious World Class Quality Mark.



Shortlisted for the TES School Awards 2026

Reflecting our ambition and impact, we are proud of our vision being recognised.



Shortlisted for the MAT Excellence Award 2025

This recognition reflects our Trust's vision to be the "Trust of choice across our world."



Winner of Several Edurio Awards 2025

Edurio Awards recognise the strength of our school communities.



The MATA Green Trust of the Year Award 2025

Award-winning commitment to environmental sustainability within our sector.



The Sutton Trust Gold Fair School Admissions Award 2024/2025 & 2025/2026

Fair School Admissions Gold Award winner for two consecutive years.

An award-winning school to be proud of

Recognised for excellence. Celebrating the achievements that make Trinity Academy Cathedral an academy to be proud of.

From **national recognition** to **outstanding educational achievements**, our awards reflect the dedication, ambition and care shown by our staff and students every day.

These successes celebrate our commitment to delivering an exceptional experience for every young person in our community.



“These successes celebrate our **commitment** to delivering an **exceptional** experience for **every** young person in our community.”

National recognition for our academy



Pearson National Teaching Awards 2025

Award winning staff recognised for their achievements across the nation.



World Class Schools Quality Mark

Recognised with the prestigious World Class Quality Mark.



Winner of the TES Secondary School of the Year 2019

Nationally recognised by TES as School of the Year 2019.



SIAMS – Rated Excellent in 2020

'Cathedral Academy has a far-reaching impact on the local community, MAT and at a national level.'



Shortlisted for the TES School Awards 2026

To be shortlisted for Headteacher of the Year across the state is an achievement worth celebrating.



Ofsted Outstanding in all areas 2022

We are honoured to have been Graded Outstanding in all areas by Ofsted.*

* At the time of print our 2026 Ofsted report has not yet been published.





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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, 2022

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Recognition by Ofsted – Excellence in every area

Ofsted no longer give a one word judgment but when they visited in 2022, we were delighted to be graded as outstanding in all areas. Our recent 2026 visit went very well but results are not yet published at the time of print.

This recognition by Ofsted follows other accolades that demonstrate the very highest 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 9 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 Ofsted 2022 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'**.



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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.

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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**'.

- Ofsted, 2022

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Our Christian ethos in action

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.

Our Christian values of **Empathy, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility** form the basis of everything we do.

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**.

Our Christian values 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, our whole-school **Remembrance Service** which includes local veterans, our relationship with local elderly people and students' ongoing support of **Fafali**, the child we support through the **Compassion child sponsorship programme**.

“**Inspired and motivated** by the vision, there are **no Lost Sheep**, because adults and pupils serve as **tenacious shepherds** to each other.
- **SIAMS Inspection**”



“This academy’s **gift** to its pupils is **life-lasting** and **life enhancing**. It gives them the **keys** to their **future**.
- SIAMS Inspection”



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Exceptional progress with outstanding success

As one of the highest performing schools in Wakefield, we are extremely proud of our staff and students. Results place us consistently in the top 10% of schools in the country.

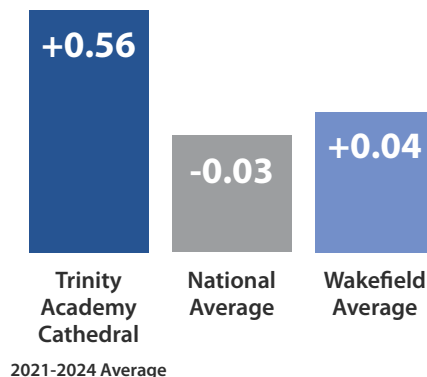
Our vision is that all our students are **'highly knowledgeable and strive for excellence'**. We support them on this journey from the moment they start in year 7, immersing them in our knowledge rich curriculum, helping them become **'Masters of Recall'**, and supporting them to hone their skills in applying their knowledge in every discipline they study.

We are a non-selective academy and we welcome students of all abilities. The Department for Education uses a measure called **'Progress 8'** and we consistently achieve **'well above average'** on this national measure. This demonstrates how well we support students to achieve beyond the levels they are predicted from their starting point in Year 7.



Secondary outcomes:

How much progress students make between the end of primary school (Key Stage 2) and the end of secondary school (GCSEs).





“Trinity Academy Cathedral 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

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 the 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**.

Support for students

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 **Special Education Needs** and **Inclusion** teams have a range of highly skilled and experienced staff who provide additional support to students who need it.

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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.

”



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. **“Through a comprehensive PSHCE curriculum and inspiring assembly schedule, 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. All students stay for a compulsory club for one hour each week and are free to get involved in the activities of their choice.

The **INVOLVE** programme is focused on **Phase 1 (KS3)** and provides a wide range of opportunities such as **Creative Writing Club, Earthshot, Chainmaille Jewellery, Coding Club, Sewing, Cooking, Drama, Music** and **Lego** to name but a few. The compulsory club day will be shared in advance: all students stay until 3.45pm on their compulsory **INVOLVE** day.

Sports and activities

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**.





The Cathedral Challenge

In every year group, students take part in **'The Cathedral Challenge'** which recognises their character development journey.

Starting with **'The Odyssey'** in year 7, progressing through our incredible **'Graduation'** programme in years 8 and 9, and culminating in **'The Edge'** in Key Stage 4.

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 in and out of the UK.

“

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

- Head Boy

”



CAPA Juniors: the 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 our school 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.

Performing Arts studies will include:

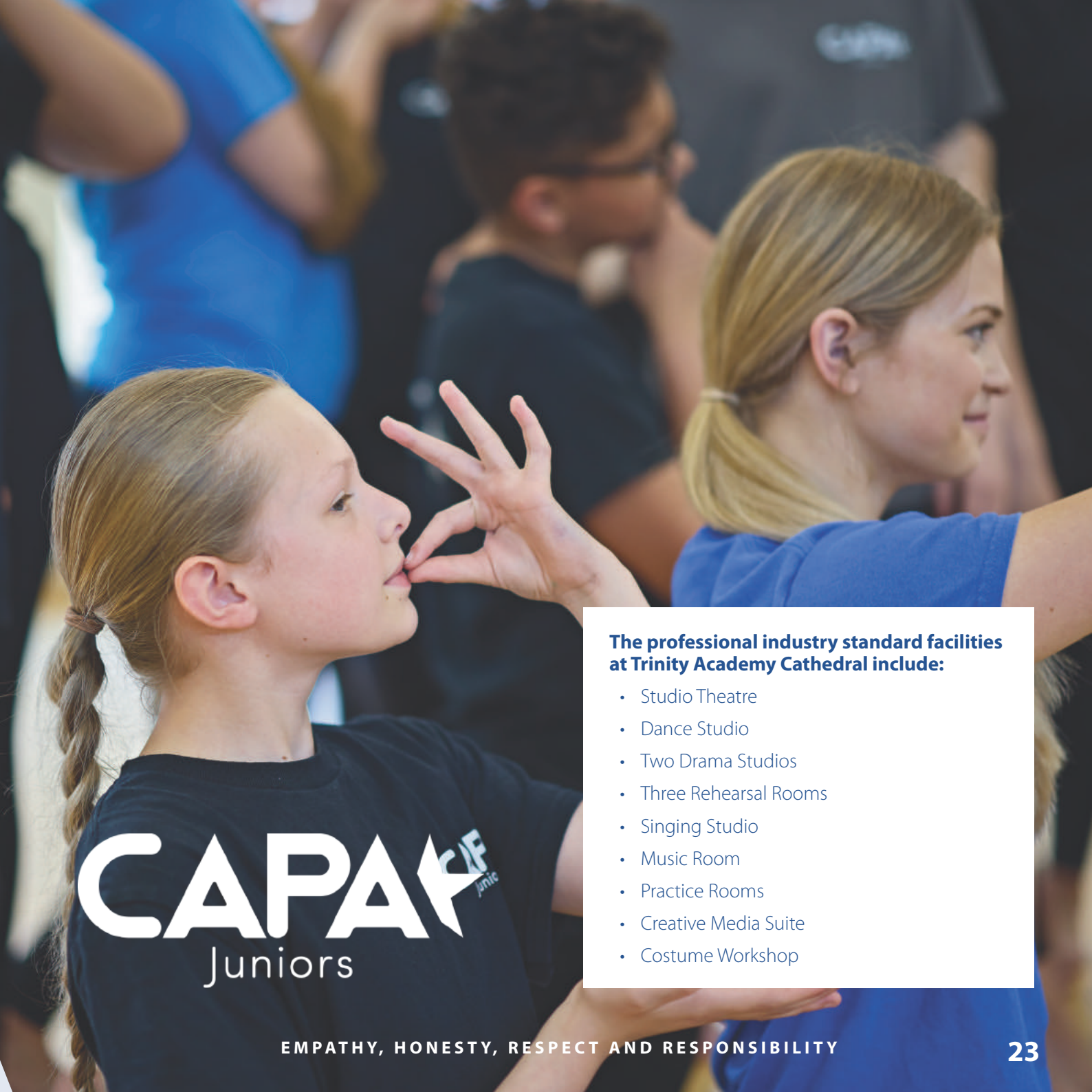
Dance – including contemporary, urban, ballet and choreography lessons.

Drama – including voice, scripted and devising lessons.

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

Creative media – including audio and videography lessons.





CAPAF
Juniors

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





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

- **Ofsted, 2022**

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Ensuring our young people succeed

The quality of the teaching and learning we provide is consistently excellent. We work hard to see 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.

This is underpinned by our **'Expectations for Excellence': 'Be Ready', 'Be Kind', 'Be Committed' and 'Be your Best'**. 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.

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.

“

Teachers undergo a huge range of **Continuous Professional Development (CPD)** to ensure that they are at the **forefront** of the **latest developments** in practice.

”

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 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.





“

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.

”

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 in the summer term to experience a carefully tailored and exciting transition day, allowing them to gain a real insight into being a Cathedral student.

Student support

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 **Morning Prep Tutor** and **Student Liaison Officer**, who are there to assist students in times of need, and of course are key to celebrating personal success!



Applying for a place

We admit 210 students per year into year 7 and these places are awarded strictly in line with terms of our Admissions Policy, which is available to view on our website.

Fair Banding Assessment (FBA)

For Year 7 entry into Trinity Academy Cathedral in 2027, 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 is done 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.



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 21st September 2026**.

Important note

An application to sit our FBA is not an application to attend the academy.

Please refer to your local authority's website for information on how to apply for a place at a secondary school.

Parents will also have to include Trinity Academy Cathedral as one of their preferences on the local authority's **Common Application Form (CAF)** which must be submitted to the local authority on or before **31st October 2026**.



“

Pupils **feel safe** and
very well supported.

- Ofsted, 2022

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Register for our

Fair Banding Assessment by

21st September 2026



Trinity Academy Cathedral

Thornes Road,
Wakefield, WF2 8QF

cathedral.trinitymat.org

Everything is possible for one who believes.

