

July 2024

Dear families

End of academic year letter

As this academic year draws to a close, I am writing to share the achievements and events that have taken place at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown this year and to inform you of the arrangements for the new academic year.

Our vision is to support your child in climbing their mountain to university or a real alternative, thrive in a top job and have a great life. Our Year 11 results from 2023, placed students in the top 4% nationally for progress, demonstrating the high-quality education that students at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown receive. As well as achieving exceptional exam results, we want students to have the opportunity to broaden their cultural capital through extra-curricular experiences, expeditions and by meeting inspirational people. Below are some of the events that have taken place this year at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown and accolades that our students have achieved.

Cycle 1

- Year 9 students took part in the Positive Choices workshop to develop their knowledge and experience of safeguarding.
- Year 6 Open Evening provided the opportunity for student subject ambassadors to represent their subjects.
- Careers opportunities this cycle which included a legal careers guest speaker for Year 11, the Young Entrepreneur Challenge for Year 10 students, Year 10 mock interview boot camp, Year 10 mock interviews and a guest speaker from Leeds Maths Sixth Form for Year 11 students.
- Year 7 students attended a residential and climbed a mountain in the Lake District and participated in a host of outdoor pursuits.
- Students in Year 11 are visited the theatre to see A Christmas Carol.
- A student in Year 10 was voted in as a Leeds Youth Member of Parliament
- Students in Year 10 completed their project with West Yorkshire Mayor's Office on policing powers and 'Stop and Search'. One student received the Cherry Grace Award for their contribution to this project.
- Students applied for student leadership positions, underwent formal interviews and were elected by existing leaders, the new Student Council was launched, and Subject Ambassadors were appointed to represent all subjects across the academy.
- Year 9 students took part in an art workshop run by Leeds Arts University.
- There were successful applications for Upper Peak students to attend Leeds Music Conservatoire Saturday School.
- The academy hosted teacher visitors from Wellington College in New Zealand, who were extremely impressed with DTC students.
- Students competed against schools across West Yorkshire in football, basketball, table tennis, and netball.

Cycle 2

- Students participated in the Winter Showcase, showcasing musical and dance performances.
- Students in Year 8 and 9 participated in a careers panel event focussing on careers in the digital media industry.
- Students in Year 9 took part in a joint Outward Bound adventure expedition with Dixons Trinity Academy, with two students being invited back to take part in their summer programme, owing to the leadership skills they demonstrated during the expedition.
- Students in Year 10 featured on BBC Look North discussing their work on the policing powers project in the local community that they have been working on with the Lord Mayor's Office and the local police officers.
- Students attended the Convention of the North along with northern mayors, senior politicians, policymakers, business leaders and politicians to discuss transport, NetZero, people and place and trade and investment.
- Our Member of Youth Parliament in Year 10 led a campaign within the academy so that our young people were given the opportunity to choose issues that are important to them.
- Year 10 French students attended a Grade 9 conference at Dixons 6th Form Academy in Bradford to see learn more about achieving a grade 9 in GCSE French and to have a taste of an A-level French lesson.
- A student in Year 8 was selected as a finalist in the Access All Arts National Competition to showcase their work.
- Students took part in various sporting competitions as part of the 'Dixons Cup', in which they competed against other Dixons' academies.



Cycle 3

- Students in Year 10 had the opportunity to attend a performance of Macbeth at Leeds Playhouse.
- Students in Year 8 took part in the Ahead Partnership Girls in Technology event.
- Our students entered national competitions entered include RE Spirited Arts competition, English Orwell Youth Prize and the UKMT Junior challenge.
- A student in Year 7 entered the Orwell Youth Competition and was shortlisted to attend the conference in London during Cycle 3 – a very prestigious event.
- Students in Year 9 took part in an Auschwitz virtual tour.
- Students in Year 8 visited the University of York and walked the historic walls of the city.
- History students in Year 10 took part in an expedition to Fountains Abbey.
- Year 11 participated in an interview preparation day with Clarion, alongside our Year 10 students taking part in the Clarion Highfliers event.
- Students in Year 10 submitted work to the Orwell Youth Project, which means that they became members of the fellowship, benefitting from mentorship and guidance from top writers.
- An expedition took place for our student art ambassadors to meet a local artist at the Carnival Centre.
- There was a GCSE Art Expedition to Leeds Art University Undergraduate Final Show to inspire our artists in Key Stage 4.
- Students formed a Culture Day Committee to help the Staff Committee to plan Culture Day, which took place on 3 July. They engaged with local artists, sports players, universities and organisations to deliver a wide variety of activities for Culture Day. Students came to school dressed to impress and took part in a fashion show on the day, demonstrating what their culture means to them.
- As part of Culture Day, Arthur France MBE and his daughter Asha, visited the academy for the first time and took part in the fashion show as well as running workshops for students, in which they made costumes.
- We have continued to build links with City of Leeds Basketball Academy and some students from DTC have been invited to take part in their club training sessions.
- Year 10 students visited Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College for a taster day, where they chose a variety of A level lessons to try out ahead of applying next year.
- We held a mock election, in which students learned about each of the political parties, submitted their ballot and then chose to elect the Green Party as a student body.
- Year 11 held their Prom, which was a wonderful night of celebration and a lovely send off for our Class of 2026.
- We had our first ever 'Ascend Festival' showcasing our amazing talent in the field of Art, Music and Dance.
- Students competed against schools across Yorkshire in athletics.
- Year 9 students took part in their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expeditions
- Secondary Sports day 2024 at The John Charles Centre for Sport.

These are a taste of some of the events that have taken place this year, in which students have lived our academy values of hard work, trust and fairness. We endeavour to provide a range of experiences for students at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown and we look forward to the events planned next academic year.

Start of Year Arrangements

Year 7 students will start back at the academy on Monday 2 September 2024 for their first day of induction. Students in Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 will return on Tuesday 3 September 2024. Students must arrive no later than 8.15am and be in morning meeting by 8.20am.



Term Dates 2024-2025

The term dates for next academic year are outlined below.

Term 1 Tuesday 27 August* to Friday 18 October 2024

* Monday 2 September 2024: Year 7 only return as normal ready to start the academy day at 8.20 am

* Tuesday 3 September 2024: All students return as normal ready to start the academy day at 8.20 am in Secondary. In Primary the academy gates open at 8.30am and students should be at the academy ready for 8.40am.

Holiday - Saturday 19 October to Sunday 3 November 2024

Term 2 Monday 4 November to Friday 20 December 2024

Holiday - Saturday 21 December to Sunday 5 January 2025

Term 3 Monday 6 January to Friday 14 February 2025

Holiday - Saturday 15 February to Sunday 23 February 2025

Term 4 Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April 2025

Holiday - Saturday 5 April to Sunday 20 April 2025

Term 5 Monday 21 April to Friday 23 May 2025

Holiday - Saturday 24 May to Sunday 1 June 2025

Term 6 Monday 2 June to Friday 18 July 2025

Holiday - Saturday 19 July 2025 - onwards

Staff training, data and planning days

Tuesday 27 August 2024

Wednesday 28 August 2024

Thursday 29 August 2024

Friday 30 August 2024

Thursday 14 November 2024

Friday 15 November 2024

Friday 14 February 2025

Thursday 6 March 2025

Friday 7 March 2025

I would like to take this opportunity to remind families that we do not authorise holidays during term time and advise that all holidays are booked in our academy holidays to ensure that your child is not missing essential learning time. Thank you for your support this year at Dixons Trinity Chapeltown and I hope you have a fantastic summer holiday.

Yours faithfully



Ms E Hickey

Head of Secondary

