

July 2025

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. 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

- Students in Year 8 took part in the Positive Choices Day to develop their knowledge and experience of safeguarding
- We held our first MacMillan Coffee Morning with parents, students and staff to raise money for MacMillan
- Students in Year 10 visited Clarion Law firm to gain workplace experience in legal professions
- We celebrated Black History Month with the Reclaiming Narratives Poetry Competition and morning meeting key figure highlights
- We held parent workshops with the charity Daisy Chain on supporting children with neurodiversity
- We conducted interviews for our Student Leadership team and Student Subject Ambassadors
- We ran parent workshops with the organisation Shantona on healthy relationships
- We celebrated Anti-bullying week incorporating odd socks day, which saw students in secondary delivering anti-bullying talks to students in the primary phase
- Students studying art went on an expedition to the Leeds Creative Arts Festival
- Year 8 students took part in STEM workshops facilitated by two celebrities in the computing world

#### Cycle 2

- We held our first ever Careers Week, which included workshops from Leeds Heritage Theatres, visits from industry experts, a visit from an Alumni student, Year 11 mock interviews, Year 8 virtual work experience and a Careers Fair for students in Year 9, 10 and 11
- Students in Year 11 had the opportunity to visit the theatre to experience A Christmas Carol from the Northern Ballet
- We invited families to our Winter Tea and Talk to enjoy some festive treats
- Our Winter Showcase exhibited the creative talents of students across the academy in drama and music
- Students in Year 10 and Year 11 participated in workshops run by Leeds Arts University Workshops in Art lessons
- Students in Year 7 worked diligently in teams in our Trust wide virtual Dixons Cup Maths competition
  - Student leaders confidently delivered interactive workshops to primary students for Safer Internet Day
  - Students in Year 11 mastered their interview techniques, impressing a range of employers in the process during their mock interviews arranged by Clarion Law firm
  - Students in Year 9 and Year 10 visited Thackary Museum to take part in their Gothic Literature workshops
  - Our Student Council represented the community at the Leeds Youth Summit at Leeds Civic Hall, and they met the Mayoress of Leeds
  - We held our first ever DTC Iftar community event with many contributions from families, staff and the local community
  - To celebrate World Book Day, we had a visit from an author to deliver workshops with students in Year 7 and Year 8
  - Students in Year 8 attended the Alhambra Theatre in Bradford to experience the groundbreaking musical, Hamilton
  - We travelled to Manchester with some Year 10 students to listen to the author and broadcaster Jeffrey Boakye speak
  - Students in Year 11 attended the Dixons Academies Trust Grade 9 conference at Dixons Sixth Form in Bradford



- We celebrated Neurodiversity Week with guest speakers and morning meeting key figure highlights
- Clarion Law firm conducted mock interviews with students in Year 10 to prepare them for their sixth form and college interviews in Year 11
- We heard from a guest speaker from the mental health charity, Kooth, who spoke to Year 7 about the importance of healthy friendships
- The English department organised an expedition to the Theatre for Year 8 students to see Animal Farm

### Cycle 3

- We held our second Careers Week of the year with a careers fair and guest speakers in from the RAF, publishing, Yorkshire Housing, the business sector and healthcare sector
- Students in Year 11 visited the Channel 4 Studios to gain some workplace experience and students in Year 10 completed virtual work experience with Channel 4
- Over the Easter holidays two students in Year 10 took part in an Ambassador Exchange programme to China with Miss Plahe
- We held our Year 7 and Year 8 STEM camp during the Easter holidays
- We held weekly employability workshops for parents
- Our students in Year 7 went on residential to Ullswater, where they climbed a real mountain
- Students in Year 9 and Year 10 had the opportunity to visit the Alhambra Theatre to experience a dramatic performance of An Inspector Calls
- Our annual expedition to a university took place for student in Year 8, where they experienced firsthand university life and explored the city of York
- Students in Year 10 visited the Leeds Arts University graduate exhibition for inspiration for their GCSE studies
- Year 7 students that had elected rowing for their co-curricular visited Roundhay Lake to put their practice to good use on the water
- The English department organised an expedition to the ballet to see Romeo and Juliet
- We held our Year 11 prom, which was a wonderful night of celebration and a lovely send off for our Class of 2027
- Students in Year 10 visited Notre Dame College to experience life at sixth form college
- We held our Summer Fayre with many of our families and local community organisations running stalls
- Students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10 represented Dixons Trinity Chapeltown in the first Dixons Academies Trust Sports Day at the Manchester Regional Arena, competing against all academies in our Trust
- Year 9 completed their Duke of Edinburgh training and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions
- We held our annual Sports Day at the John Charles Stadium
- Students and staff across the academy celebrated our annual Culture Day

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 extracurricular 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 1 September 2025 for their first day of induction. Students in Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 will return on Tuesday 2 September 2025. Students must arrive no later than 8.15am and be in morning meeting by 8.20am.

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**

