

Message from the Head of School

As we come to the end of another academic year and pause for reflection, I continue to be amazed at the unprecedented challenges that we have all had to face and how we have come together as a school community to support each other.

My thoughts and prayers are with those members of our community who have lost loved ones to this pandemic and those who continue to suffer because of it.

No-one could envisage that when we opened our doors to our whole school back in September that we would experience another such testing year. We have followed all Government advice, closing where appropriate, arranging hub provision for our vulnerable students and the children of key workers and planning for the safe re-opening of school when allowed. All of this has taken enormous amounts of planning and consideration and I would like to thank my Senior Leadership Team for all of the hard-work and dedication over the last few months.

Bishop Young Academy would not be the school that it is without our wonderful students. The impact of the past year should not be underestimated and it would be misleading to suggest that we have not all been faced with situations beyond our initial expectations. But our students have shown such courage and resilience, exhibiting true BISHOP character, as we have worked together on our recovery journey.

Plans to embrace as well as develop opportunities for our young people are very high on our agenda for the next academic year. These include, an extended curriculum (offering wider options across the school day), working in partnership with our sister schools in the Trust to extend programmes and inclusion opportunities, and exploring partnership opportunities within the wider community to enable others to understand and value the qualities and strengths of our young people.

I would also like to say a warm goodbye to our outgoing Year 11 students. It has been a privilege to work with you all over the last five years and to see you all grow into the proud and confident young people that you have become. I wish you every success for your future – please do keep in touch and come and visit!

I would like to wish each and every one of you a happy and safe summer holiday, whatever you are doing and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school in September.

Rachael Cole
Head of School

Introducing our Head Boy and Girl



Congratulations to Josh and Peace on their appointment as Head Boy and Head Girl 2021-2022. They are joined by their deputies: Anas, Cheryl, and Tanika. We are confident that they will carry out their duties in an exemplary manner and lead the Senior Student Leadership Team throughout their term of office.

Dates for Your Diary

- 23.07.2021: Academy closes for Summer Holidays (12 noon)
- 06.09.2021: Training Day (Academy closed to students)
- 07.09.2021: Training Day (Academy closed to students)
- 08.09.2021: Academy open to Year 7 only
- 09.09.2021: Academy open to Years 7, 10 & 11
- 10.09.2021: Academy open to all Year Groups

Bishop Young Academy Christian Vision

During this academic year, we decided that it was time to update our Christian Vision for the academy. So much of what we do well at Bishop Young Academy stems from our Christian ethos and we wanted to make sure that this was reflected in the vision statement. We like to think of the vision as the roots of a tree. The branches that grow out from the tree are our Christian values and affirmations, our Character Curriculum, our pastoral care, our academic aspirations for our students, our approach to inclusion and support through the Ark and our exciting new resource provision, Dovecote. We think of our school community as a family, and we wanted to reflect this in the vision. It is also really important to us that we celebrate the diversity of our community and ensure that all at our academy feel safe, welcomed and loved.

The new Christian Vision is as follows:

‘Bishop Young Academy is a safe and welcoming family, where all God’s children are valued and all are enabled to flourish. We rejoice in the diversity of the many individuals who make up our community, as we learn to live well together and to serve one another in love.’

We have shared the new vision with our students through Collective Worship and will be looking for a group of students in September who would like to help us to ensure that we are living out our vision in daily life across the academy. These students will be given the opportunity to lead worship assemblies, help with the decoration of the altar and have some input into the planning of Collective Worship.

Guitar, Drum and Keyboard Tuition at BYA

Do you want your child to learn a skill that could be their friend for life?
How many times do you hear your kids say “I’m bored”?
Do you want your child to be independent, proactive learners?
Do they struggle with confidence, self belief, discipline, routine, purpose or focus?
Learning an instrument will teach them important life skills such as communicating, getting organised, teamwork, problem solving, perseverance and resilience.
Currently lessons take place on Fridays for half an hour with groups of around three students. **It is ESSENTIAL that your child has access to an instrument and that they develop a regular practice routine in order to make progress.**
Please contact emma@purplemonkeymusic.co.uk with any questions or for advice. Students are more than welcome to go and see Emma after 10.30am on Fridays.

Cultural Cohesion Quality Mark



At Bishop Young Church of England Academy, we have been striving towards gaining our Cultural Cohesion Quality Mark accreditation. The Cultural Cohesion Quality MARK (CCQM) fully supports and rewards organisations that promote a collaborative approach to social responsibility and provides a framework for developing culturally responsive knowledge and skills.

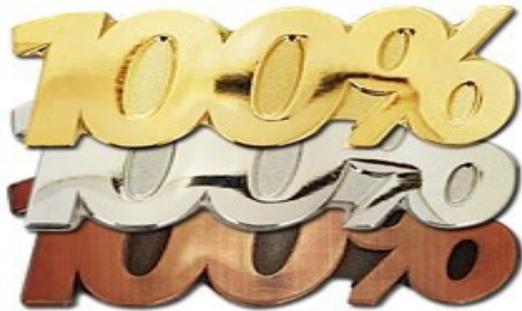
This has been a positive journey from the start and we have enjoyed learning about inclusivity and diversity within society. Diversity is any dimension that can be used to differentiate groups and people from one another. It is about empowering people by respecting and appreciating what makes them different in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation and national origin

We have enjoyed sharing this journey around school with our students, and every department has made their own personal pledge as to how they will work towards the CCQM and ensure that each lesson makes the links between what is being taught and developing our cultural capital. To further promote CCQM amongst our students, we also have a comprehensive PSHE provision that addresses issues such as the impact of stereotypes and the idea of democracy. The focus of PSHE is to develop the character of our students to coincide with the ethos of the Academy and its focus on inclusivity.

We are incredibly proud of the diverse nature of our school community, and the whole Academy is on this journey, staff and pupils alike, and we look forward to moving forwards and developing those discussions around CCQM in and around our communities.

100% Attendance Club

At Bishop Young Academy we are celebrating the students with a faultless attendance record by establishing the 100% Attendance Club. This prestigious club is for those who maintain 100% attendance throughout the academic year. These students will be given a host of rewards and experiences in recognition of the perseverance and resilience it takes to maintain 100% attendance to school. There is also a Super Draw for 2 Apple Airpods each half term. 100% attenders will also receive a 100% Attendance lapel badge.



Rewards Day

In order to acknowledge outstanding attendance and punctuality and all of the positive achievements of students at Bishop Young Academy this year, we held a celebration Rewards Day that took place in school on Tuesday 13th July.

As a thank you for all of their hard work and commitment this year, we hired a number of inflatables and an ice cream van that served free ice creams and lollies throughout the day. We all had a fantastic time and despite the grey start to the morning, the sun soon shone for us. There was also a prize draw for all of the students who attended the day and we are delighted to let you know that Marco was the lucky winner of the grand prize. Congratulations Marco!



BYA Poem

Students at BYA were set the challenge to create a poem that best describes what it is that makes our Academy so special, what it is like to attend BYA and what impression we would like all new students to have of our school. We would like to say a huge congratulations to Alex, who was our very worthy winner. Please read his excellent poem below:

The School I Desire

The school I attend is the best around.
This school wants to educate you and empower you.
Excitement and joy spread the corridors. Filled with laughter.
I've made so many friends, and so will you.
I love Bishop Young and so will you.
The atmosphere is filled with challenge.
o-zones are built to develop new skills; working independently and nurturing confidence.
The greenery outside grows top notch.
I was worried at first. Moving up to high school.
Moving school is a new cup of tea,
It was a massive move. Moving up to high school.
Then after a few days it felt like home.
After moving I've learnt new things, which are really helpful.
No matter the day, the time, the lesson or the experience. I enjoy every moment.
That's why I love this school,
And if you try it out I'm sure you will too.
The school I attend is the best around.



Dovecote at BYA

From September we are excited to finally open the doors to our first Dovecote cohort. Dovecote is our onsite resource provision for students with Complex Communication Needs and Autism. Autism is a neurodevelopmental difference that can affect how a person communicates, as well as affecting how they make sense of the world around them. All students at Dovecote have Education Health Care Plans (EHCP) and access to a specialist team offering a bespoke supported curriculum. We are extremely honoured that families have chosen Dovecote at BYA and we are very proud to be able to celebrate their learning differences. Our team of experienced specialists includes our SENCO, a resource provision manager, curriculum lead, HLTAs and teaching assistants will work with Dovecote students and families to ensure that students accessing Dovecote have a blended learning experience during their time at Bishop Young Academy. Our brand new dedicated provision will feature a state of the art sensory room, a calm room, life skills room, computer room, several classrooms, a hygiene suite and multiple meeting rooms to meet with the onsite Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) or Educational Psychologist (EP). Although our new build will not be completed until later in the Autumn Term we are looking forward to welcoming students into our temporary home in the Moyes next to BYA. Over the course of the build, we'll be updating our social media pages and our website with new content, including videos, podcasts and pictures. At Bishop Young we are committed to educate all young people entrusted to our care by giving them a high standard of teaching and setting them appropriate accessible challenges throughout their time with us. We believe that all students should be celebrated regardless of their background or learning styles. We promise to nurture our students by providing them with a safe, caring and loving environment in which to develop in self-confidence and self-understanding within the Christian family of the school community. We pledge to empower students and champion neurodiversity and our learning differences by giving all students opportunities to recognise their potential, whilst supporting them in expressing themselves within school and in the wider community. After a successful transition day we look forward to seeing our Dovecote students at Summer School and are looking forward to expanding our Bishop Young Family.

Oracy at BYA

Bishop Young Academy 'proud to be an articulate academy'

At Bishop Young Academy we are passionate about developing and sustaining a culture of excellence in the classroom and beyond, where both students and staff are relentless in their quest to be the very best that they can. We put our learners at the heart of everything that we do, determined to provide a truly excellent academy that our students are proud to be part of. We aim to educate, nurture and empower our young people to become the confident and successful citizens of the future with the ability to express their ideas, communicate with confidence and speak eloquently.

These essential skills drive our commitment to becoming an articulate academy, with Oracy at the epicentre of this. We are incredibly proud to have our work on oracy recognised at a national level as part of the Speak For Change APPG Report, led by Emma Hardy MP and released in April this year. We are also working with Oxford University as a case study in their latest report on narrowing the word gap. The forthcoming academic year is an exciting time for us as we become a stage 3 oracy school in partnership with Voice 21 and will be a model of best oracy practice across our Trust. If you would like to read the full report, please use the link below:

https://oracy.inparliament.uk/sites/oracy.inparliament.uk/files/2021-04/Oracy_APPG_FinalReport_28_04%20%281%29.pdf



Hello and Goodbye

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to our Heads of Year, Ms. Baker and Mr. Strongman, who is leaving us to become a Chemistry Teacher, as well as our science teacher Mr. Traynor. But a warm BYA welcome to Ms. Haller and Mr. Coone, the new Heads of Year for Years 7 & 11.

FIND OUT WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AT BISHOP YOUNG ACADEMY
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