



# In Partnership to Educate, Nurture & Empower

**Bishop Young C of E Academy**

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1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**Head of School: Ms Rachael Lacey-Cole**

We are delighted that you have been allocated a place for your child at the Bishop Young Church of England Academy from September 2024. We are looking forward to working with you to ensure that they gain the most from their time with us as we prepare them for life beyond school. Whether this will be your first child to join us, or you already have children within our community, we are excited to welcome them.

We are very proud of the school that we have become and the journey that we have taken over the last few years. We are incredibly proud to have been judged as an **excellent** church school at our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) in June 2023. The key findings are listed below:

- The vision statement, together with the Christian values, underpins the strategic and operational life of the academy on all levels. Lived out through associated affirmations and 'Bishop Character', it has a transformational impact on students.
- Difference and diversity, in all its forms, are joyfully celebrated. Students and staff are accepted for who they are and loved and welcomed into the Bishop Young Academy family.
- The rich curriculum is augmented by trips and visits which enable students to develop undiscovered skills and enjoy new life experiences. This drives their aspirations and gives them hope for the future.

If you would like to read the full report, please visit our website:

<https://www.bishopyoungacademy.co.uk/academy-information/siams>

We are particularly pleased with the recognition that this work has received from organisations such as The Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools, who have awarded us their Gold Standard, and who stated that BYA "is inspiring to work with and demonstrates an absolute commitment to the young people and their families."

We have also recently been awarded Healthy Schools, MindMate friendly and PSHE friendly status, with the inspecting team noting that "Everything that Bishop Young Academy do centres around developing the whole child with the understanding that basic needs have to be met first and foremost. Staff are passionate and committed to this shared priority and they go the extra mile to improve students' lives and provide them with a positive and fully inclusive learning experience"

Furthermore, during our last OFSTED inspection the team found that 'Pupils are proud to attend this school. They are eager to learn. They speak to each other and to members of staff openly and with respect. They are supported in and out of lessons, and always have adults to speak to when they need help or advice.'

We are extremely proud of these comments as we feel that we provide exemplary care, guidance and support for our pupils. It is this additional support that has contributed significantly to the improvements in achievement that we have seen over recent years. The report also notes that 'aside from more traditional subjects, teachers also deliver enrichment lessons and activities linked to the 'Bishop Character Curriculum'. Pupils benefit greatly from these opportunities.'



Co-CEOs: Mrs Helen Pratten & Ms Catherine Garrett

Abbey Multi Academy Trust, c/o Chapter House, Abbey Grange C of E Academy, Butcher Hill, Leeds, LS16 5EA  
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During the last few weeks, we have been awarded funding through the Leeds City Council Healthy Holidays programme and are delighted to be able to offer a free one week summer school to all of our incoming students. This will take place on site during the first week of the school holidays and they will be able to participate in a number of sporting activities, including a 10 pin bowling trip. Hot food will be provided every day, with all dietary requirements catered for by advance request.

In addition, we would also like you to know that as a result of concerns regarding the current cost of living crisis, we have also made the decision to assist with the purchase of school uniform for the September 2024 Year 7 intake. We have therefore decided to provide all students who will be joining us with a free jumper and tie; blazers are no longer compulsory in recognition of the cost of replacing these items throughout your child's school years. It is hoped that this gesture will go a little way to help our families in these difficult times.

Here at Bishop Young we have an open-door policy, and we would also like to invite you to visit the Academy to tour the school with a member of our Senior Leadership team. This will be a good opportunity for you and your child to become familiar with their new school and ask any questions that you may have. If you intend to visit, please do contact the main reception on 0113 3200582 or email us on [info@bishopyoungacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@bishopyoungacademy.co.uk). Unfortunately, we cannot allow anyone without an appointment to enter the school premises.

Over the course of the next few weeks we will begin to send out information to our families about transition into Year 7. We understand that this process is different for each student and we will continue to offer personalised support to your child throughout their time with us.

We would very much appreciate it if you could let us know if you will be accepting your place with us as soon as possible. Please contact the main reception on 0113 3200582 or email the Transition Team on: [transition@bishopyoungacademy.co.uk](mailto:transition@bishopyoungacademy.co.uk).

**If you have already done this, thank you very much and we look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks.**

If you have any questions about either the transition process or anything else regarding joining Bishop Young Academy, please do not hesitate to get in contact with our Transition Team.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Rachael Lacey-Cole

Head of School