



THE NATURAL CHOICE FOR
A LEVELS IN BRADFORD

NEWSLETTER

INTEGRITY | CURIOSITY | RESPECT

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Not casual about learning

WELCOME



D6A is quite simply a special place, and we are excited that the start of the 2024 academic year saw us reach our capacity, with nearly 1300 students currently studying with us which is our biggest community ever!

Having been recognised by Ofsted in May 2023 as a college that is outstanding in all areas, it is this, and our specialist A level provision, that are the reasons why we are increasingly becoming the A level provider of choice for Bradford. Quite simply, we believe in the talent of our city, and with over 60 students completing an early application for Medicine or Oxbridge it is clear that students in Bradford are not only as good as students anywhere else but are also now able to access the highest quality sixth form education within the city. Like premier league football, Sixth Form education is a result driven business and with A level A*-C rates comfortably above National performance and BTEC Distinction* - Distinction rates higher than any other sixth form in the country it is comforting to know that the students attending D6A consistently secure the results needed to enable them to attain their next step.

Results and A levels are of course incredibly important, however, at D6A we believe the wider curriculum and all the opportunities and enriching

experiences that our students get are just as important to developing our students which is why we refer to our curriculum as a two-winged bird. We cannot begin to tell you about the breadth and volume of these activities, and this newsletter only reports on a small sample of the things our students are able to experience. I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and if you are currently in Y11 make sure you apply as soon as possible and before the deadline of Friday 20 December to ensure that you have the full breadth of course options.

CARLY TEALE

Head of College

C. Teale

EVENTS

ISTANBUL, 2024

On Wednesday 6 November, we took 44 students and 5 staff on a guided tour of Istanbul, Turkey. The tour was an enriching cultural experience for all of students as we explored mosques such as The Hagia Sophia and The Blue Mosque as well as historical palaces including Topkapi Palace and Dolmabache Palace. The students also were able to travel from Europe to Asia across the Bosphorus Strait aboard a private boat, a truly magical experience. Every single student was able to make memories for life, gaining newfound independence and curiosity of a foreign country. We are excited to see where the international trips will take us in the future!



CULTURE DAY

The college's first Charity Day took place on 16 October. We celebrated the cultures within our college by coming to college in our best outfits, designed to celebrate each students' individual cultural background. At lunchtime, we held a catwalk show where several student style icons showcased their clothes in the Sports Hall. During the show, there was also a bake sale of food from around the world. All of the activities during the day raised money for our local charity The Bradford Soup Run. Members of the Student Executive collected money during the day. This was added to the money raised from ticket sales and the bake sale to raise an amazing £687.48! Well done everyone!

PROM

Following the success of our first ever prom in 2023, our Year 2 students commemorated the end of their college careers at the 2024 Prom in July. The Oscar theme event celebrated the end of a fantastic two years, with a red carpet, delicious buffet, photo booth, DJ and student awards! It was the perfect opportunity for students and staff to come together and we look forward to Prom 2025!



BME (SUMMER BBQ)

To end the busy academic year of 23/24, D6A hosted the annual Summer BBQ. The day was a huge success which gave students the opportunity to engage in some exciting and fun activities. The weather was kind which allowed students to get involved in the inflatables, laser quest and obstacle course. Staff dressed in their best beach clothes whilst students wore colours which represented international charities.

Students enjoyed their lunch from the BBQ, topped off with an ice cream. We raised £614 for the student executive's chosen charity of War Child – a very worthy cause. A great day was had by all and it was a lovely way to end the year.

Y11 REMINDER

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER

APPLY BEFORE THE DEADLINE TO GUARANTEE THE COURSES OF YOUR CHOICE.

You don't have to wait for your predicted grades. Apply online at:
www.dixons6a.heiapply.com/application/home

EVENTS



At Dixons, we remain committed to offering enriching opportunities like the YR1 Big Trip, as they are integral to developing well-rounded, global-minded individuals who are prepared to succeed in both life and learning.

All YR1 students visited Malham for a full day's experience. Walking a 5 mile circular route, that takes in Malham cove (UNESCO world heritage site), Gordale Scar and Janet's Foss. The day is an opportunity for students to spend time in the great outdoors and build relationships with other students and staff. The day is run with the support of Carnegie Great Outdoors qualified mountain leaders.



YR1 BIG TRIP

At D6A, we believe in the power of experiences beyond the classroom to enrich learning and personal development. This is why we deliver the YR1 Big Trip for our first-year students every year. The Big Trip is designed to inspire, challenge, and broaden the horizons of our students by providing them with the opportunity to engage with new environments, cultures, and perspectives.

The trip encourages students to develop key life skills such as teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and resilience—qualities that will serve them not only in their academic journey but throughout their future careers. It also fosters stronger bonds within our community, allowing students to build lasting relationships with peers and staff in a supportive, dynamic setting.

This year's Big Trip was a resounding success! Our students demonstrated exceptional maturity, enthusiasm, and a willingness to step out of their comfort zones. They returned with a renewed sense of purpose, confidence, and a deeper understanding of the world around them. Many have shared that the experience was not only a highlight of their year but also a catalyst for personal growth, inspiring them to set ambitious goals for the future.



CURRICULUM



OPEN EVENING 1&2

On Tuesday 24 September and Thursday 17 October D6A hosted their open evenings of the year. This gave prospective students and parents/carers a chance to hear more about the college and what we have to offer here at D6A. Our head of college, Carly Teale, gave three talks throughout the evenings, welcoming visitors, and explaining what is on offer if students are to make us their choice of college.

The evening gave students the chance to explore the wide range of courses we have to offer, visit the various teaching rooms in the building and meet the team of subject specialist teachers.

In addition, the students had the opportunity to explore the enrichment offer we host and learn about the further support which is provided for students whilst studying here.

Both evenings were a huge success, with live music being played, the building had a real buzz about the place.



FUTURES DAY

At D6A we are eager to continue to work with business and industry partners to help our students understand the full range of career options available to them. This will support our young people to become highly skilled members of the future workforce within our region and beyond. We are incredibly proud of our students and their academic and personal achievements at college, and we recognise the importance of exposing them to the professional world. Your involvement will support our students to become competitive in their future applications and able to continue their successes after finishing their A level and BTEC studies.

We aim to provide our YR2 students with the opportunity to engage in a range of activities to help boost their confidence, understand the importance of making a strong first impression and also practice the skills required for varied interview processes that they will encounter later in the academic year.



HALF TERMLY AWARDS

Tuesday 15 October saw the first Half termly Awards event of the 24/25 academic year. Over 24 students were nominated from respective courses in the college with three students going onto receive prizes for their efforts this year.

The evening was an opportunity to celebrate and share the successful first half term these students have had, recognizing their hard work, determination and resilience to succeed. The students celebrated with their friends, family and teachers and received certificates for their contributions to their subjects areas. Well done to all students who were nominated – we look forward to the next event!

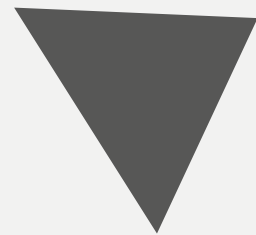
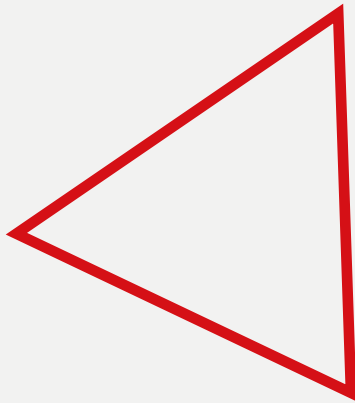
CURRICULUM



SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

Each year our eager mathematicians take part in the UK Senior Maths Challenge. This year we've had just over 100 students enter for the competition. Students who do particularly well will then advance onto the Kangaroo stage later in the academic year.

This year we achieved one gold (Uzair Ali), ten silver and twenty-four bronze awards. Eleven of these students will then enter the next stage (Kangaroo competition), a real achievement for our students.



BIOLOGY OLYMPIAD

Students will have the unique opportunity to learn about and carry out a range of ecological sampling methods relevant to the A level Biology course. Preston Montford is a dedicated field studies centre with expert teachers allowing students to experience the highest standard of teaching and learning in this area.

With only 20 iBO Gold-award winning students selected for the course, Tawhid and Ashton are among only a handful of students in the country to attend this course. As such, attending the course will enhance the chance for both students to make successful applications to competitive universities.

Preston Montford has been awarded the Quality Badge by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom for school groups. Each Centre achieved the badge by demonstrating that they consistently deliver high quality teaching and learning experiences to school groups and manage risk effectively.

Congratulations to two Biology students: Tawhid Mir and Ashton Lambert who achieved Gold Medals in the Biology Olympiad and have been selected to attend a Field Studies Council residential course in half-term. Thank-you to Jonathan Dalla-Riva for making this opportunity possible for the students.

ENRICHMENT



NATIONAL FITNESS DAY

On the 18 September, D6A celebrated National Fitness Day to raise awareness of the benefits of physical activity to our students. There was a range of activities on offer, from competitive fitness challenges to recreational activities, including a 30 second rowing and cycling challenge, climbing wall, cycling skills and even breakdancing.



DIXONS SIXTH FORM ACADEMY
DOUGLAS MILL,
BOWLING OLD LN,
BRADFORD
BD5 7JR

WWW.DIXONS6A.COM
@DIXONSSIXTH
INFO@DIXONS6A.COM