



Breaking News

The Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust is delighted that a second Doncaster UTC has been approved by the Secretary of State following a rigorous national review. The new school serving Years 7-13 will focus on green technologies and health sciences, supported by major partners including Hybrid Air vehicles, CPH2, Vulcan, the NHS, and the Universities of Sheffield.

Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust has thanked Lord Baker and the Baker Dearing Trust for their extensive support, alongside Doncaster MPs and the City of Doncaster Council who has enabled the project through land support.

We are so excited about the future, and we look forward to sharing this with you in future editions of the newsletter.

Helen and Garath

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Message from the
CEOs of
The Brighter
Futures Learning
Partnership Trust,
**Mrs Helen
Redford-
Hernandez
and
Mr Garath
Rawson**



Well it is nearly Christmas and we are sure you are ready for a well earned Christmas break. Our visits to schools this term have exemplified the fantastic work our staff have been doing to ensure our young people get the very best education and we are not surprised that this translates into some amazing learning opportunities.

As you know this will be my last Christmas as CEO of the Trust and it is wonderful for me to leave knowing that my recently appointed successor will be Garath Rawson. He has been totally committed our Trust and was an amazing 'first Principal' for Doncaster UTC. As you know, he cares deeply about our staff and students and will ensure the Trust continues on its journey of excellence. Congratulations!

Finally, as we wrap up a wonderful term and head into the Christmas season, we want to share our warmest wishes to all our staff and parents.

Wishing you all a magical Christmas filled with peace, laughter and well earned rest.

Helen and Garath

Please see a letter to colleagues sent from Mrs Redford-Hernandez.



Dear Colleagues,

As I prepare to step down after a career spanning more than 15 years of headship across 2 schools and seven years as a CEO, I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude and pride in all that we have achieved together. I also find myself reflecting not on personal achievements or honours but on the extraordinary privilege it has been to serve our schools and young people. Like all staff in our Trust, I have never sought recognition; what has always driven me is a deep, unwavering belief in the power of education to change lives.

So many of the children and young people in our schools have faced challenges that no young person should ever have to endure—the loneliness of neglect, the relentless noise of social media, the pain of physical abuse and, for some, the unimaginable loss of a parent. Yet time and again, I have seen courage, resilience, and hope emerge in the face of despair. That is the quiet magic of this profession. Our work has never been easy, but it has always been meaningful. The greatest success of this Trust does not rest in data or inspection outcomes, but in the countless young lives that have been steadied, nurtured, and inspired by adults who cared enough to stay the course. I have been privileged to work alongside teachers, support staff, and leaders who give of themselves every day to help children believe in a better future. To those of you who quietly go about your business but make a difference—you know who you are. Your compassion, integrity, and commitment are the heartbeat of our schools.

Since the formation of the Trust in 2019, we have been on a remarkable journey. Through our shared determination and unwavering commitment, we have transformed the life chances of the children and young people we serve. Some challenging decisions have been made which have not always been either easy or popular but, across every school, outcomes have improved significantly—a true reflection of the exceptional work of leaders, teachers, and support staff.

Every school within the Trust has now secured a strong Ofsted report—a testament to your professionalism, dedication, and belief in our collective vision. Our phonics outcomes, multiplication tables check, and SATs results, GCSE and A level outcomes and attendance data stand significantly above national averages. Just as importantly, our enrichment programmes and employer engagement initiatives are exemplary, ensuring that our pupils receive a truly holistic education. Children remain at the heart of everything we do, reflected in our inclusive philosophy and rich curriculum that nurtures ambition, creativity, and character. We are lucky to have so many wonderful parents and carers who value the importance of education and support us to secure the very best for their children. Their partnership, support, and trust underscore everything that is important in our work.

Doncaster UTC and Hungerhill School are shining examples of what can be achieved when vision meets commitment. Doncaster UTC, despite opening during the exceptionally challenging times of Covid, achieved a 'Good' Ofsted rating within just two years—an extraordinary accomplishment. Hungerhill School, the school I was privileged to serve as Headteacher from 2012 to 2019, has now been judged Outstanding, and I could not be prouder. Both schools are providing a world-class education on every metric.

Although I am stepping down as CEO I am delighted that I will continue to serve the Trust in an advisory capacity. I will remain deeply committed to supporting our shared vision and to contribute to the continued success of our schools and young people. I would like to give special thanks to several colleagues whose dedication has been instrumental in shaping our success. Mrs Teresa Ladley, our Trust Operations Director, played a pivotal role in establishing the Trust with me and was a constant source of strength and expertise as we worked with Garath Rawson, our first UTC Principal, to open Doncaster's first UTC. My sincere thanks also go to Mrs Carole Keogan, my PA, and to Mrs Tracy Duncan, our Trust HR Manager, for their unstinting support, professionalism, and loyalty over many years.

I must also acknowledge our terrific CFO, Mr Simon Brigham, and the entire finance team, whose diligence and expertise have ensured our schools have the resources they need to deliver an outstanding curriculum and enrich the educational experience of every pupil. I am equally indebted to our Trustees and governors for their belief in my ability to support leaders in driving significant improvements across the Trust. Their strategic insight and steadfast commitment have ensured that our pupils and students remain at the heart of every decision we make.

Finally, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to our Headteachers and Trust school improvement leaders whose exceptional dedication and leadership have been the cornerstone of our progress. The journey has, at times, been among the most challenging of our professional lives, but I hope each of you can see the lasting impact of your hard work and the fruits of your labour in the thriving schools and successful young people we serve. I am extremely proud of your resilience during the turbulent times of Covid, your unshakeable belief in the potential of every child and, above all, your collaborative spirit which has become the hallmark of the Brighter Futures Partnership.

I am excited for the future, confident that I leave behind an exceptional team of talented colleagues and friends with a work ethic, commitment, and genuine care for others. It is with immense pride and deep gratitude that I will now be handing over the reins, knowing the Trust is in the safest of hands and poised for an exciting new chapter. Thank you for your loyalty, your passion, and your relentless belief in what we can achieve together for our children. It has been the greatest privilege of my professional life to lead you.

With sincere thanks and warmest wishes,

H. Redford-Hernandez

**Chief Executive Officer
Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust**



Overall Trust News



Carl Ennis, CEO of Siemens in the UK and Ireland

My Role as Trustee

As a Trustee of the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust and a representative of the UTC on the board, I am proud to contribute to shaping opportunities for young people. Education is a powerful driver of social mobility, and by supporting initiatives that equip students with practical and future-proofed skills as well as confidence, we help unlock potential and create pathways to rewarding careers.

My role as CEO of Siemens in the UK and Ireland mirrors this commitment. At Siemens, we believe that technology and innovation thrive when talent is nurtured, and we actively invest in programmes that promote STEM education and skills development. These efforts are not just about preparing individuals for the jobs of today but ensuring they are ready for the challenges of tomorrow.

Through partnerships like Brighter Futures and Doncaster UTC, we aim to bridge the gap between education and industry, giving students real-world insights and experiences. By working together, we can inspire the next generation, strengthen communities, and build a workforce that reflects the diversity and ambition of society. Supporting education is not only a responsibility; it is an investment in a brighter future for everyone.

Tarina Chow Director of Operations and Compliance

I have recently joined Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust as Director of Operations and Compliance. I'm really excited to be part of a forward-thinking trust that puts children first and supports its staff to run their schools smoothly and safely.

I am a Strategic Operational Excellence Practitioner, with a background in both education and private industry, specialising in health and safety, estates, and finance. I'm passionate about creating safe, sustainable, and well-managed school environments, because when those things are in place, great learning can happen.

I will be working closely with headteachers and central teams to align our systems and processes, improve how we manage our buildings, and embed sustainability into everyday practice. I'm also keen to build a culture of continuous improvement across the trust, where we're always looking for smarter ways to work and better outcomes for our pupils.

I am looking forward to working with everyone at BFLPT and making a real difference across the trust.

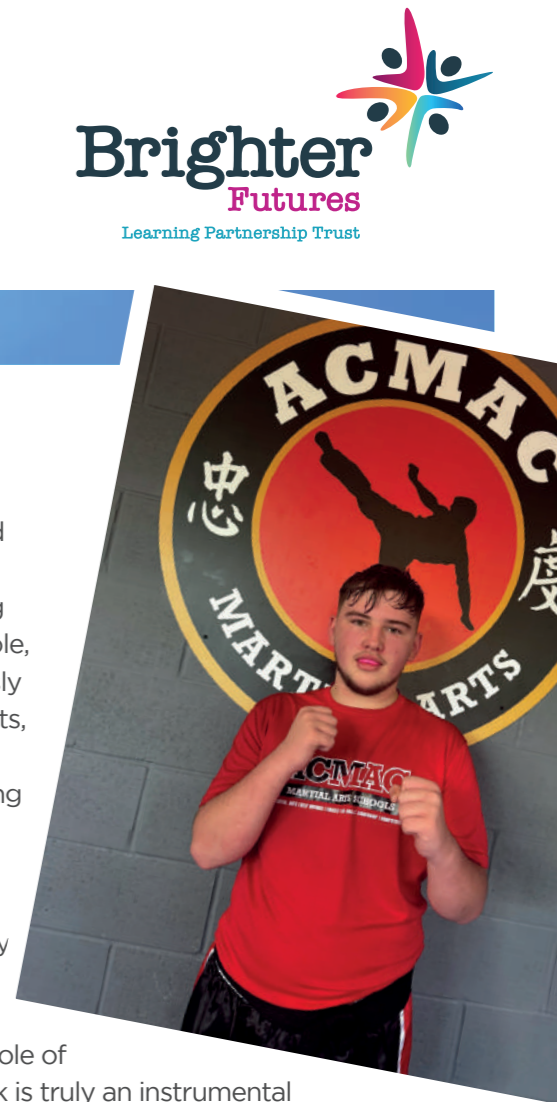


Supporting Mr Turner

Jack Turner joined Doncaster UTC in 2021 as a Learning Manager. In this role, he worked tirelessly to support students, parents, and staff, all while completing his teaching qualification. He now teaches both PE and Geography and, since September 2024, has taken on the role of Head of Year. Jack is truly an instrumental part of Doncaster UTC.

In June 2025, Jack's life changed when he discovered a lump in his neck. What we hoped would be a minor issue quickly became a long, uncertain journey of scans, biopsies, and specialist consultations. At just 28, Jack now faces a complex cancer with no clear diagnosis or standard treatment plan.

So far, a public appeal has raised £13,850. This includes a remarkable donation from one of Doncaster UTC's former students, Oscar Snedker. Oscar left the UTC in June 2024 at the end of Year 11, during which time Mr. Turner was his Learning Manager. Upon hearing about Mr. Turner's health battle, Oscar wanted to support him, just as Mr. Turner had supported him during his time at Doncaster UTC. Oscar organised a charity sparring match, raising £735, which was donated to the fund.



Continued >>



Overall Trust News



A Message from Mr Turner

“The support shown by the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust and wider community has been beyond words. The kindness and generosity from students, families and colleagues have been truly motivating, and from the bottom of my heart — thank you.

I have now begun treatment. Following many consultations, specialists are working on the assumption that my condition is a form of melanoma. So far, I've received radiotherapy and a first round of immunotherapy, which aims to help my immune system fight the cancer. This will be a long and complex process, but it gives me a fighting chance- which I am very much looking to grab with both hands!

Your contributions have already made a real difference. They have helped fast-track my case and given me access to options I would not have had, including a cutting-edge oxygen therapy designed to support my immune system and slow cancer growth.

There are still no guarantees, but there are early signs that treatment may be starting to work. I am staying grounded, but hopeful.

This will be a long and hard process that's only just really begun, but I will continue fighting thanks to the strength and motivation that each and every one of you has given me.

Thanks again; words can't express my gratitude and appreciation.”

Mr Turner



Doncaster UTC also held a non-uniform day, raising £1,536, which has been donated directly to support Jack. Hungerhill School also showed their support by organising their own non-uniform day, raising £985.70.



Lindsey Glasby My Role as Trust Executive Vice Principal

I first heard about Doncaster UTC in January 2020 when I attended an open event aimed at parents. The idea of introducing a completely new type of educational establishment to Doncaster immediately captured my attention. I left that event feeling inspired, excited, and eager to be part of something so innovative.

Just a few months later, in September 2020, I joined Doncaster UTC as Senior Vice Principal. In that role, I was responsible for teaching and learning, curriculum development, careers, and employer-led learning.

Working alongside our founding Principal, Garath Rawson, I played a key role in bringing the UTC's vision to life.

From the beginning, collaboration was at the heart of everything we did. I worked closely with our founding employers and partners, Sheffield Hallam University, the University of Sheffield, the Advanced Manufacturing and Research Centre, Doncaster Chamber, and a range of local employers from the engineering and digital sectors. Doncaster faces a recognised skills shortage in both engineering and digital industries, so developing strong partnerships was essential. Together, we've been able to create a pipeline of talent into these areas, ensuring that our students gain the skills, experiences, and confidence needed to succeed.

In my current role as Trust Executive Vice Principal, my focus is on school improvement and ensuring that all students across our trust receive the very best educational experiences possible. Over the past year, I've concentrated particularly on mathematics, developing and implementing an ambitious Key Stage 3 curriculum alongside a new assessment model.

One of the things I value most about my role is the variety it brings. I'm fortunate to still work closely with Doncaster UTC while also supporting improvement work at Hungerhill School. For me, relationships sit at the heart of everything I do. I believe in developing genuine, honest, and positive interactions with colleagues, students, and partners alike, whilst always challenging individuals and teams to be the very best they can be.



Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



Barnby Dun

Pupil Parliament

We recently recruited our new Pupil Parliament Ministers, beginning with an application process followed by shortlisting, speeches, and interviews. For existing ministers seeking a promotion, the same process was followed, and their experience from last year's Pupil Parliament truly shone through.

The children put an incredible amount of effort into preparing their speeches, showing great passion, confidence, and enthusiasm for the roles they applied for. To ensure a fully democratic process, all KS2 pupils had two votes: one for new applicants and another for existing ministers applying for promotion.

When it came to counting the votes, it was clear that many pupils found it difficult to decide; every speech was so thoughtful and inspiring!

Here are a few snippets from the children's speeches, which really demonstrate their maturity and commitment:

'I feel that I have had my voice heard in ways that wouldn't have been possible without Pupil Parliament.'

'I will listen to your thoughts and opinions and discuss these with other parliament members and staff.'

'I will remind you that it is okay to ask for help when you need it. Let's stay active, care for your mind, and always be kind.'

'I am hoping to become Deputy Prime Minister so that I can use my final year at Barnby Dun Primary Academy to help improve the school and leave a legacy for future years. I want to be a critical friend to the Prime Minister.'

'I think you should vote for me to be in Pupil Parliament because I love our school, from the playground to the classrooms.'

'I care about making sure everyone feels included, safe, and happy at school.'

'I'll listen to all your ideas, work hard and be responsible.'

We were so proud of everyone who took part in the process. What was especially impressive was that some children who had applied last year but were unsuccessful applied again this year and secured a place, demonstrating remarkable resilience, reflection, and determination. Our school would not be the vibrant, thriving community it is without pupils with such drive, enthusiasm, and a genuine desire to make a difference.

Trip to Murton Park

The Geckos and Monkeys had a fantastic experience at Murton Park, learning all about life in the Stone Age. The day began with the children acting as archaeologists, examining a variety of artefacts and thinking carefully about their possible uses. They impressed their guide by recalling so much from their history lessons at school!

For the rest of the day, the children dressed in clothes representing animal skins and experienced life as Stone Age people might have lived. They practiced weaving, hunting, grinding flour, and making beaker pots, enjoying a hands-on journey back in time.

Eco Team

The school year began with the recruitment of some enthusiastic new members for our Eco Committee. The children appointed have taken their roles seriously and are already busy with exciting projects.

At the start of November, they launched our Cut Your Carbon Campaign during a whole-school assembly. They shared important messages about how small changes can make a big difference for the environment and challenged families to complete activities aimed at reducing their carbon footprint; for example, washing clothes at 30°C instead of 40°C.



The team has also been busy litter picking in our woods in preparation for our new after-school club, Forest Explorers. They have cleared the raised beds and planted new daffodil bulbs, which we look forward to seeing bloom in the spring.

Upcoming projects include a pre-loved Christmas jumper day and a book sale. The dedication and enthusiasm of our Eco Team are outstanding, and we are extremely proud of all their hard work.





Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



Dunsville

Year 3 and 4 Stone Age Day

As part of their personal development offer in school, Year 3 and 4 had the opportunity to explore the Stone Age with 'Want2B Workshops'. Clare and Janice brought the Stone Age to life for the children as they explored how people at that time dressed in animal skins and why they used animal skins for clothing, bedding and furnishings.

The children learnt how houses were built and insulated using wattle and daub. They were able to weave wooden sections that were used for house walls and then add wattle and daub to insulate the houses and make them waterproof.

Working with charcoal, the children crushed it into a fine powder, added water to make a paste, and mixed it to create paint. They then used this to create their own cave art.

As part of our history unit, the children have also been learning about Stonehenge. They attempted to recreate Stonehenge using wooden bricks and discovered it was quite difficult to get the stones to stay standing!

Overall, this was a fantastic opportunity to deepen their knowledge and have a hands-on experience of what life in the Stone Age was like.



Making Tasty Wraps in Key Stage One!

As part of KS1's Design and Technology topic, pupils learnt about what makes a healthy and balanced diet. We considered the different food groups and then taste-tested a range of items to see which we preferred and what combinations worked well. Surprisingly, hummus and cucumber were a firm favourite!

Having gained more knowledge about healthy foods and food combinations, we then designed a healthy, tasty, affordable wrap containing vegetables, protein and dairy products.

The children followed their designs to make their wraps and then evaluated them in small groups before finally tasting them. "Mmmm!" was the only sound you could hear! The results were unanimous – the wraps were very tasty!



Year 6 Residential Visit to Dearne Valley

During the first half term, the Year 6 children took part in a three-day residential visit to PGL Dearne Valley. Throughout the visit, the children participated in a variety of adventurous activities, which challenged not only their physical strength but also their resilience and determination.

Some activities encouraged teamwork and problem-solving, such as 'Buggy Building'. Once the children had built their structures using complicated knots, they were able to test them out.

Other activities required the children to work together in pairs, like 'Jacob's Ladder'. This ropes task required them to rely on and support each other to climb horizontal poles.

The children's favourite activity was the 'Quick Zip', where they had multiple turns running off the platform and racing each other to the end of the zip line.

On returning to school, we held an awards ceremony to celebrate the children's achievements. They also chose their own 'Student Stars', who were awarded medals to take home and keep.





Our Brighter Futures Curriculum

The Quality in Careers Standard >>>>

"Congratulations on achieving the Quality in Careers Standard which fully incorporates the Gatsby Benchmarks"

This is to certify that:

Hungerhill School

has been externally assessed and awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard for its careers education, information, advice, and guidance provision.

M. Squire

Michele Squire

Ixion Holdings (Contracts) Ltd

This award is for a period of 3 years, expiring at the latest on **15th September 2028**. Awarded on **15th September 2025** by Ixion Holdings as a licensed Awarding Body for the national Quality in Careers Standard.

ixion
part of Shaw Trust

Hungerhill School

Hungerhill School Achieves Quality Standard for Careers Work

We are proud to announce that Hungerhill School has been awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard, under licence by Ixion (part of the Shaw Trust Group), in recognition of our outstanding careers provision. As an Ofsted-rated Outstanding school, Hungerhill continually strives to enhance the opportunities and prospects of all our students.

The Quality in Careers Standard is awarded to schools and education providers that demonstrate a strong commitment to supporting students in making informed decisions about their future pathways. At Hungerhill, we are dedicated to preparing all students for life beyond school, ensuring they have the knowledge, skills, and experiences they need to succeed.

With a statutory duty to provide independent careers guidance from Year 8 onwards, and government recommendations for schools to work towards this national standard, achieving the award highlights the commitment of our headteacher, governors, and leadership team to high-quality careers education. It also reflects the wide range of activities we offer to introduce students to the world of work and help them plan for their futures.

The Quality in Careers Standard has provided a flexible framework for auditing our careers work, ensuring our students receive excellent guidance, practical support, and meaningful experiences. We are thrilled that our efforts have been recognised, reaffirming our commitment to equipping students for the next stage of their education, employment, training, or self-employment, and helping them achieve personal success.

Remembrance Service

On Sunday 9th November, four of our students attended the community Remembrance Service, led by Reverend Tom. They represented the school with distinction, reading prayers and laying a wreath on our behalf. A huge thank you to Summer-Rose Copsey, Eloise Craggs, Farrah Bingham, and Jacob Mitchell for going above and beyond for the school and for exemplifying our core values of care and respect so wonderfully.



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Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



Kirk Sandall Infant School

Science comes alive!

In the first half term, the focus was all about the human body, which meant one very exciting visit from our friend 'Skelly Skeleton'. A huge thank you to Hungerhill for lending us a full-size skeleton, which allowed all children to explore, discuss, and write about the different bones in the body.

Following this, we enjoyed a fantastic 'Kidz Fit' workshop. A scientist came in to talk to our KS1 children and run hands-on workshops all about the human body. During the sessions, children learned about bones, muscles, and organs and even tested their own bodies through activities that raised their heart rates, observing how their bodies responded.

After half term, KS1 children moved on to learning all about animals. Our Year One children explored the classification of animals and their distinguishing features. A surprise visitor, 'Cyril the Tortoise', stopped by to help sort animals into their groups. Cyril was very well-behaved and enjoyed visiting each classroom to discuss his features and explain why he is a reptile. We're looking forward to welcoming even more animal visitors; we can't wait to see who arrives next!



Remembrance Day

This year at Kirk Sandall Infant School, we explored Armistice Day in depth. KS1 children learned about the significance of wearing poppies and held a moment of silence during their assembly. Our EYFS children used their curiosity cube as a starting point to discuss the importance of poppies, asking thoughtful questions and creating their own poppies to wear.

The Pupil Parliament team helped sell poppies to raise money for the Royal British Legion; a huge thank you to them and to everyone who donated. A special mention goes to Olivia B in Nursery, who attended the Church of the Good Shepherd service on Sunday, 9th November, with Reverend Tom, laying her own wreath on behalf of the school.

Let's Get Striding!

Miss Flounders, our wonderful Personal Development Lead, has helped Kirk Sandall Infant School become even more active! KSIS is now an official member of the 'Active Travel' scheme, which promotes healthier lifestyles for children and their families. Being active supports both mental and physical wellbeing and helps our children develop key learning powers such as resilience and

determination, encouraging them to achieve their very best each day.

Each class has been tracking how they travel to school, and Miss Flounders has arranged for our local supermarket to allow families to park and stride to school, helping to ease traffic congestion, keep everyone safe, and give families the chance to choose active travel.

As part of Cycle to School Week, KSIS ran a competition for children to design their own bikes. We had a huge number of creative entries! Two children from each class were chosen by the Pupil Parliament Team and received prizes. During the week, Dr Bike visited our Year One pupils to teach scooter skills, including how to look after their scooters, ride safely, and have fun!

Kirk Sandall Infant School is proud to be October's 'Top Striding School' in the whole of Doncaster! Strider visited the school to meet our active travellers on the playground at the end of the day; what a fantastic celebration of healthy, active lifestyles. Happy striding!





Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



Kirk Sandall Junior School

Amazing Assemblies!

Even though we have just started a new academic year, we have already welcomed many visitors into school as part of our personal development curriculum.

We were delighted to welcome representatives from Network Rail for a special visitor assembly focused on rail safety. This engaging and informative session included a joint presentation by Neil from the British Transport Police and Clare from Network Rail, who spoke to our students about how to stay safe around railways, the dangers of trespassing, and the importance of making safe choices near train tracks. Through real-life examples, videos, and discussion, students learnt about the serious consequences of unsafe behaviour around railways and how they can act responsibly in their communities. The session also contributes meaningfully to our personal development offer, helping students build confidence, responsibility, and awareness of the world around them.

We also welcomed two first-team players from Doncaster Rovers, Charlie Crew and Timmy Lo-Tutala, to the school. Hearing from Timmy and Charlie linked directly to personal development: their journeys demonstrated the importance of our learning powers, especially effort, determination, resilience, and a positive attitude. They have overcome challenges, stayed focused, and worked hard from a young age. This also supported careers education, showing students how goals are achieved step by step. Their diverse backgrounds highlighted the importance of inclusion, and their experiences helped pupils understand character development, mental strength, and PSHE values such as teamwork,

confidence, and managing pressure. These real-life role models inspired our pupils to keep going, try their best, and believe that with hard work and the right mindset, anything is possible!

For those children who are more Meatloaf than Mozart, we had our Rock Steady music launch. It was amazing to see their excitement as they explored instruments, listened to live performances, and even tried a few beats themselves! Music encourages creativity, builds confidence, and promotes teamwork. Opportunities like this help children express themselves, discover new interests, and grow in resilience and communication, all key parts of their personal development.

Speaking with the pupils afterwards, it was clear they had gained a deeper understanding of the everyday dangers they may face. Many said they now feel more confident in how to respond in an emergency.

Great learning, Year 6!

Year 6 Pupils Inspired by Visit to Local Engineering Company Agemaspark

The trip was kindly arranged by Chris Francis, Employer Engagement Lead at Doncaster UTC, who reached out to our school to offer this exciting experience. Chris, along with Managing Director Paul Stockhill, welcomed the children and provided a tour of the impressive facilities, where they saw cutting-edge machinery and technology in action.

Agemaspark is well known in the engineering world for its advanced techniques and innovation, and the company has strong existing links with Doncaster UTC. In fact, Paul Stockhill played a key role in the bid to bring the UTC to Doncaster, a testament to his ongoing commitment to nurturing the next generation of engineers and technicians.

Our students were fascinated by the complex processes involved in precision engineering, and they left with a real sense of how maths, science, and technology can be applied in real-world careers. It was also incredibly inspiring for them to see a local business so passionate about education and skills development.

We are very grateful to Agemaspark for opening their doors to our pupils and showing them what's possible when curiosity meets opportunity. Who knows, this visit may have sparked the ambition of a future engineer or innovator!

Year 4 go to Austerfield

The Year 4 pupils at Kirk Sandall Junior School recently stayed at Austerfield Study Centre for their overnight residential. Pupils spent their time den building, bug hunting, and learning how to make fire with flint. They also enjoyed roasting marshmallows over a campfire before making s'mores.

Throughout the trip, the children were encouraged to develop their independence and a range of skills, including resilience, teamwork, and reflection. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and we are already looking forward to next year!





Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



Doncaster UTC North Star Event 2025

Our students recently took part in North Star 2025 – A Science School Event, an inspiring annual STEM showcase held at Gulliver’s Valley theme park.

This year’s North Star Collaborative Workshop brought together our students and a range of outstanding employers, including Paul Stockhill (AgesaSpark Ltd), Buzz Mason (CBM-Logix Ltd), Adam Fleming (Fastline Services Ltd), and Ian Straw (Vulcan to the Sky Trust). This collaboration offered students valuable insight into a variety of engineering and technology sectors, helping them connect classroom learning with real-world applications.

In the lead-up to the event, students from Years 10 to 12 met weekly after school with these industry experts to design and deliver engaging STEM activities for schools across the region. Their hard work culminated in a fantastic showcase that highlighted their creativity, teamwork, and innovation.

We are incredibly proud of our students for their professionalism and enthusiasm throughout the project, and we extend our sincere thanks to all the employers who helped make North Star 2025 such a success!

We also had the pleasure of taking a small group of our top-scoring Year 9 Engineering students to



participate in the North Star event. Pupils experienced nine different employer-led activities, including hands-on sessions with the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Organised Crime Unit inside their Cyber Security van, and sand-casting pewter with United Cast Bar Ltd.

It was a fun and engaging day, packed with practical learning opportunities from potential future employers—an inspiring introduction to the exciting world of STEM careers for our next generation of engineers.

Health and Social Care and Medical Science Visit to Sheffield Hallam University

Our Post-16 Health and Medical Science students recently visited Sheffield Hallam University to explore their state-of-the-art simulation suite.

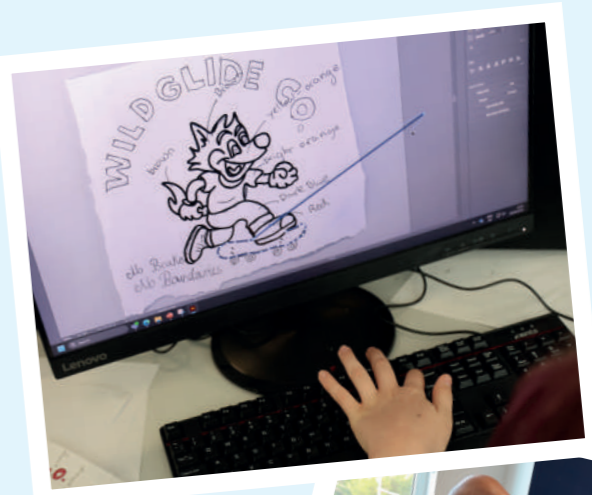
The department boasts a 12-bed hospital ward packed with real equipment used to train our next generation of healthcare and medical professionals. The students had the opportunity to role-play patients/nurses, take observational measurements, and record these on standardised charts used across the NHS.



Year 10 Digital Employer Projects

Our Year 10 Digital students recently completed their first Employer Project of the academic year in collaboration with local design and branding experts Work Creative. The project was a great success, with students producing work of an exceptionally high standard. During the project, students designed a skateboard graphic and created associated marketing materials following a focused morning of research and planning that set them up for success.

Many students were rewarded with high street vouchers for their impressive efforts, and there are exciting plans underway to bring some of the standout designs to life as real skateboard decks.





Our Brighter Futures Curriculum



West Road

Visit from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor

This term, the Academy was honoured to welcome Councillor Susan Durant (Mayor) and Councillor Mark Houlbrook (Deputy Mayor). They visited to speak with our Key Stage 2 pupils about the role of local government, the importance of community engagement, and ways in which young people can contribute to improving their local area.

The pupils demonstrated great interest and enthusiasm, asking insightful questions about how the council supports our town and sharing thoughtful suggestions of their own.

Encouraging active citizenship and community involvement is an integral part of our Trust Pledges and aligns closely with our school values of Ambition, Integrity, and Respect.



LKS2 Time Odyssey Trip to Danum Museum

Year 3 and Year 4 recently enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Danum Museum in Doncaster. During the trip, pupils explored a range of exhibits linked to the local history of Doncaster, including fascinating artefacts from Roman times. The children also enjoyed spending time in the museum's Art Gallery, where they observed a selection of artwork and created their own sketches inspired by the pieces on display.

The visit continued with an interactive Time Odyssey mission, in which pupils worked in groups using iPads to locate artefacts and complete a series of challenges. The children participated with enthusiasm and demonstrated excellent teamwork, conduct, and respect throughout the day.

This was a highly enjoyable and valuable educational experience for all pupils and staff involved.

Drax Power Station Visit

Year 5 pupils recently enjoyed an informative and inspiring visit to Drax Power Station, the largest single provider of renewable power in the United Kingdom. Drax generates enough electricity to supply the equivalent of five million homes, making it a vital part of the nation's energy network.

During the visit, pupils learned about biomass: what it is, how it is produced, and how it is transported. They explored the differences between renewable and non-renewable energy sources and gained a detailed understanding of how electricity is generated, stored, and distributed.

The pupils also had the opportunity to take part in a range of engaging, hands-on activities before donning their PPE to tour the site. Highlights included seeing the pulverised fuel mills, boilers, generators, conveyor systems, cooling towers, biomass storage domes, and the National Grid storage facility.





Early Career Framework

Early Career Framework

We are delighted to welcome our new cohort of Early Career Teachers (ECTs) to the trust as they begin their professional journey through the Early Career Teacher Entitlement (ECTE). This first half term marks an exciting start, with Year 1 ECTs engaging in the 'Induction and Core Teaching' strands, focusing on building strong foundations in classroom practice, behaviour management, and effective lesson planning. These modules are designed to provide practical strategies and confidence as you settle into your new roles.

Alongside this, we want to celebrate the achievements of our Year 2 ECTs, who have returned with enthusiasm and commitment. They are now exploring stretch modules, revisiting key pedagogical principles and deepening their understanding of curriculum design and assessment. Their reflective

approach and willingness to refine practice demonstrate the sustained impact of the programme and their dedication to delivering high-quality learning experiences.

This term also includes opportunities for collaboration through Trust-wide Teach Meets, where ECTs share ideas, discuss challenges, and learn from one another. These sessions are invaluable for fostering a supportive professional community across our schools.

We are proud of the progress being made and remain committed to investing in staff development at every stage of their career. Together, we continue to uphold the highest standards of teaching and learning for all pupils across the trust.



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Shout Outs

Barnby Dun Primary Academy Shout Outs:

Sarah Brewster, KS1 Lead, Acting Deputy and Phonics Lead

There is nobody that works harder or is more committed to our pupils than Sarah. She has many responsibilities, on top of a full-time teaching role, and somehow manages to do everything to an exemplary standard. We would be lost without her.



Sarah Brewster

Rebecca Pearson, UKS2 Lead/ Maths and Music Lead

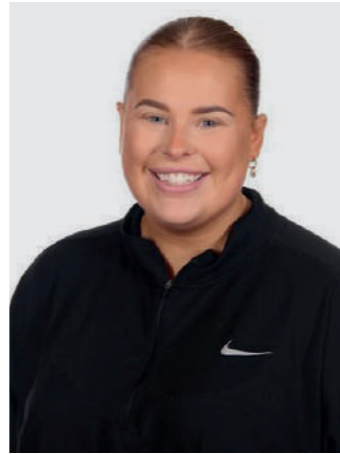
Becky is the ultimate professional and fulfils all her roles to an exemplary standard. She finds solutions to every problem and is always there for others, despite being incredibly busy herself. She leads her subjects with passion and does everything she can to support and inspire fellow teachers and teaching assistants.



Rebecca Pearson

Nat Brunskill, Year 3 Teacher

After completing her teacher training with us a few years ago, we were so pleased to welcome Nat back to Barnby Dun. She is nearing the end of her ECT period and flourishing as a KS2 teacher. Nat is always willing to take feedback on board and is a super positive, kind and generous person to work with. Nat drives a considerable distance to be here every day, which demonstrates her tenacity and commitment to the school.



Nat Brunskill

John Whiting, Caretaker

John has been a wonderful addition to our staff team. He has worked hard to get to grips with all aspects of his new role and gone over and above in terms of giving his time and commitment. Everyone comments on what a pleasure he is to work with.



John Whiting

Dunsville - Shout Outs:

Isabel Brodigan, Teacher

For making a great start since joining Dunsville in September, for getting involved fully in the life of the school, and for working hard each day.



Isabel Brodigan

Lauren Shotton, Midday Supervisor

For being so calm and efficient all of the time. She is always a friendly face and helps children each day.



Lauren Shotton

Hungerhill - Shout Outs:

Paula Elliott, Teacher of MFL

Paula has used lots of her own time outside of school to prepare for our Day of the Dead celebrations, including doing a huge amount of baking for the students to decorate cakes and biscuits. The lunchtime event was lovely, and our students are so lucky to have such a caring teacher.



Paula Elliott

Brenda Shaw, Teacher

For going the extra mile to support colleagues and especially new school staff.



Brenda Shaw



Lakveer Rathore

Lakveer Rathore, Librarian

Helping out with the book fair, consistently giving her lunchtimes to make the library welcoming, and assisting with launching Reading Buddies; the list goes on. We appreciate her massively.

Kirsty Langfield, Finance Assistant

Living the Hungerhill School core values every single day. Polite to everyone regardless of their query, organised, and always supportive in every way. You are amazing; Team Finance wouldn't be the same without you!



Kirsty Langfield



Shout Outs

Kirk Sandall Infants Shout Outs:

Sabrina Bradford, Year One Teacher

Joining our team in September, Sabrina has quickly become a valued member of KSIS. She has worked incredibly hard to build good relationships with staff and children, being supportive and nurturing with children both in her class and beyond. It has been lovely to welcome her to our team, and we appreciate all her hard work!



Sabrina Bradford

Rebecca Simpson-Page, Reception Teacher

Always working incredibly hard, reflecting on how to improve and develop teaching and learning for her class and others, Rebecca is a very much valued member of our team, quietly working hard. Moving from Year 1 to Reception this year, she has spent a lot of her own time working to make her learning environment nurturing, engaging and exciting, delivering high-quality teaching every day. Not only a talented teacher but also an incredible artist, her curiosity cube created a great talking point for children and adults!



Rebecca Simpson-Page

Kirk Sandall Junior Shout Outs:

- Alex Lille, Year 4 Teacher
- Rachel Heald, Year 6 Teacher
- Kelly Moate, Teaching Assistant
- Rachel Moxon, Teaching Assistant



Alex Lillie



Rachel Heald

Alex, Rachel, Kelly and Rachel have been with us since September and, in that short time, have firmly established themselves as effective members of KSJS. Rachel and Alex have built supportive and nurturing relationships with their classes and become valued members of their phases. Rachel and Kelly have worked tirelessly with some of our more vulnerable pupils to make every day the best that it can be! Thank you all for your hard work; we truly appreciate you!



Claire Griffiths, Jo Galbraith and Racheal Eaves

Claire Griffiths, Jo Galbraith and Racheal Eaves, EYFS Teaching Assistants

This amazing trio have helped settle our youngest pupils into school life. They are all working incredibly hard: Jo and Racheal are delivering high-quality phonics tutoring to help our reception children achieve well in their early reading skills and supporting their development of knowledge and skills across the EYFS curriculum. An extra shout-out to our super forest school extraordinaire, Claire. In October she celebrated 25 years of working at Kirk Sandall! We can't wait to see what the next 25 years brings!



Kelly Moate



Rachel Moxon

UTC Shout Outs:



Ross Cunliffe

Ross Cunliffe, Assistant Curriculum Director of English

For all his dedication in supporting the Curriculum Director and his students, both in class and beyond, including running afterschool intervention sessions and providing guidance through Teams during his own time, the students are very lucky to have a teacher who always goes above and beyond.



Nicky Bradley

Nicky Bradley, Assistant Principal

For the care and support she provides to our students, her constant willingness to adapt to the daily needs of the school, and her commitment to ensuring the highest standards of safeguarding.



Vinny Baker

Vinny Baker, Associate Assistant Principal

For his exceptional thoughtfulness, unwavering willingness to help, and steadfast dedication to his role, which together make a valuable contribution to maintaining the highest standards.

West Road Shout Outs:

Diane, HLTA

Diane is a highly respected and valued member of staff who consistently goes above and beyond for the children of West Road. She dedicates herself each day to teaching and supporting pupils in Lower Key Stage 2, while also taking the time to check in with colleagues and offer her support across the team.

Her commitment, positivity, and enthusiasm are deeply appreciated by both staff and students. Diane's ability to create a nurturing and engaging learning environment fosters curiosity and a love of learning among her pupils, making her an outstanding asset to our school community.



Eleanor Lyne

Eleanor Lyne, 1:1 Support Staff

Eleanor is an exceptional member of our support staff team, whose positivity and dedication make a real difference every day. She shows outstanding care and commitment to the children she supports, building strong, trusting relationships that enable them to thrive both academically and personally. Eleanor's resilience and nurturing approach ensure that every child feels valued and supported. She consistently goes above and beyond, whether working alongside class teachers or leading small intervention groups, always striving to create the best possible outcomes for her pupils. Her professionalism, warmth, and unwavering enthusiasm make her a true asset to our school community.



Shout Outs

West Road Shout Outs continued:

Rebecca Craddock, EYFS Lead

Rebecca is an exemplary EYFS Lead whose professionalism and dedication shine through in all aspects of her work. She leads her unit with great skill and care, always prioritising the safety, wellbeing, and development of her pupils. Rebecca listens attentively and demonstrates exceptional adaptability, responding effectively to the needs of both her children and the wider school community. Her resilience and consistently positive approach enable her to act swiftly and constructively on feedback, continually driving improvement. As a valued member of the Senior Leadership Team, Rebecca's commitment and leadership make a significant contribution to the ongoing success of the school.



Rebecca Craddock

Trust Shout Outs:

Maria Rock, Director of School Improvement

Maria is the Trust School Improvement Director and works extensively with the CEOs and Headteachers to deliver support and training to improve the quality of education. Her role specifically supports our primary schools and she brings much needed capacity and expert advice to school leaders to implement essential school improvement strategies.

She recently spent many hours working with colleagues to deliver a fantastic MAT training day. The time investment should not be underestimated and we are sure you will agree she is a fantastic colleague, always looking to support her fellow teachers be the very best.

Sarah Brewster, Trust Phonics Lead

A thank you to Sarah Brewster, our Trust Phonics Lead, for the invaluable support and strategic direction you continue to provide to our schools and Headteachers. Your leadership has been instrumental in ensuring that phonics outcomes remain significantly above national averages. Your unwavering commitment, expert guidance, and consistent encouragement



Sarah Brewster



Maria Rock



Briony Robinson

Briony Robinson, Trust Attendance Lead

A big thank you to Briony Robinson, our Trust Attendance Lead, for her exceptional work in supporting our schools to raise attendance. Attendance across the Trust continues to be extremely positive compared with both national and local figures, and this is a direct reflection of Briony's dedication and expertise. Her ongoing commitment is greatly appreciated and continues to make a significant difference across our schools.

have played a vital role in sustaining these exceptional standards. Please be assured that your dedication has not gone unnoticed — it is recognised and deeply appreciated across the Trust.