

“Everything is possible for one who believes”

MARK 9:23

Bradford Forster Academy
A Church of England Academy



DST/RMW

July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for the support, encouragement and trust you have shown Bradford Forster Academy throughout the year.

For me personally, this has been a memorable first term as Headteacher. Since joining the academy after Easter, I have had the privilege of getting to know our pupils, staff, families and the wider community. Over the past few months I have visited countless lessons, spoken with hundreds of students, attended performances and celebrations, welcomed new families and listened carefully to the views of parents and carers.

Throughout all of those experiences, one thing has become abundantly clear. Bradford Forster Academy is a school with enormous potential.

Every day I see young people who are kind, resilient, talented and ambitious. I see staff who work tirelessly because they genuinely care about the children they serve. I see families who want the very best for their children and who understand that schools achieve the greatest success when home and school work together in partnership.

That partnership has never been more important.

A Year of Progress

This year has been one of significant progress for our academy.

We have continued to strengthen expectations around behaviour, attendance, punctuality and uniform because we know that children learn best in calm, orderly classrooms where teachers can teach and pupils can focus without distraction.

The introduction of our phone-free school day has been one of the most significant changes we have made. Whilst any change requires adjustment, I have already seen pupils talking together more at social times, engaging positively with staff and becoming increasingly focused on learning throughout the school day. I would like to thank families for the overwhelmingly positive support you have shown as we introduced this important initiative.

Headteacher: Mr D Styles

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Our new school day has also settled extremely well and is already helping us create a calmer, more purposeful rhythm to each day.

These developments are not about making school more difficult; they are about creating the very best environment in which every child can flourish.

Independent Recognition

One of the highlights of the year was our recent Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). Inspectors concluded that Bradford Forster Academy is *“living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.”*

The report recognised the positive relationships across our school, the ambition of our curriculum, the strength of our pastoral care and, most importantly, the culture we are creating where every child is known, valued and cared for.

Whilst we were naturally delighted with this outcome, it also reinforced something we already knew; that our school community is moving in a very positive direction. Thank you for the part you have played in making this possible.

Celebrating Our Pupils

This year our students have continued to make us incredibly proud, both inside and outside the classroom. Across the academy they have embraced opportunities to develop their leadership, creativity, sporting ability and confidence.

For the first time, pupils led a whole-school campaign and election for our Junior Leadership Team, demonstrating impressive maturity, enthusiasm and commitment to representing their peers.

Our student leaders have also raised money for Macmillan Cancer Support, Comic Relief and Candlelighters, reflecting the compassion and generosity that we want to nurture in every young person.

Culture Week, designed and led by students, was a wonderful celebration of the diversity within our community. Seeing pupils proudly sharing their cultures through food, music, dance and traditional dress was a powerful reminder that our differences make our school stronger.

Our partnership with St John's Primary School has continued to flourish through shared reading, mathematics, sport and enrichment activities, helping younger pupils develop confidence whilst allowing our own students to become excellent role models.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

Education extends far beyond lessons, and we remain committed to providing experiences that broaden horizons and create lasting memories.

This year we have offered:

- **36 different enrichment clubs**, with an average of **25 clubs taking place every week** before and after school.

- **Over 50 educational visits**, including **four residential visits** and **two international visits**.
- **Nearly 70% of our students** have participated in at least one educational trip this year.

Whether through sport, drama, music, STEM, creative arts or educational visits, these opportunities help develop confidence, character and aspiration.

Our rewards programme has continued to grow, recognising pupils who consistently demonstrate our values through excellent attendance, behaviour, effort and achievement. We look forward to celebrating many more pupils on our rewards trip to Alton Towers in September.

Our annual 'Night of 1000 Stars' awards evening once again offered a great opportunity to showcase the very best of Bradford Forster Academy, with over 160 awards presented to students who have excelled academically, demonstrated outstanding attitudes, represented the school or made exceptional contributions to our community. It was a privilege to celebrate alongside so many proud families.

To Our Year 11 Students

I would also like to pay tribute to our Year 11 students. They have approached their GCSE examinations with maturity, resilience and determination, and we are incredibly proud of the way they have represented the academy.

Whatever their next destination, we wish each of them every success for the future and look forward to welcoming them back on **Results Day on Thursday, 20th August**.

Looking Ahead

Although much has been achieved this year, we are only just beginning. We remain ambitious for every child who attends Bradford Forster Academy.

Next year we will continue to strengthen teaching, raise standards further, expand opportunities for pupils and ensure that every young person receives the exceptional education they deserve.

As we prepare for September, we also ask for your support in ensuring that students arrive at school each day fully equipped and ready to learn. Our ambition for every child is not only that they achieve strong outcomes but that they develop the habits, routines and self-discipline that will serve them well throughout their lives. High expectations extend beyond behaviour, attendance and uniform; they also include being prepared for the day ahead.

Coming to school with the correct equipment may seem like a small detail, but it makes a significant difference. Students who are organised and prepared are able to settle quickly, engage fully in lessons and make the most of every learning opportunity. By working together to establish these routines from the very first day of term, we can ensure that valuable learning time is protected and that all students are ready to succeed.

Students should bring a pencil case containing a black pen, purple pen, pencil, ruler and yellow highlighter. Additional items such as a whiteboard pen, rubber, pencil sharpener, coloured pencils and extra highlighters can also be useful, although these can be borrowed from school if required.

Students will also be expected to bring a school bag and their planner to school every day. Planners will be issued during the first week of term and play an important role in recording homework, communicating key information and strengthening the partnership between home and school.

Everything we do will continue to be guided by our vision that every member of our community should flourish academically, socially, personally and spiritually.

Thank you

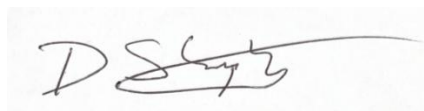
Finally, I would like to thank every parent and carer for the support you have shown throughout the year.

Schools achieve their greatest success when staff and families work together with shared ambition, mutual respect and high expectations. Your encouragement, your trust and your partnership make an enormous difference, and I am genuinely grateful for the role you play in helping us support our young people.

I wish all of our pupils, families and staff a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break.

We look forward to welcoming students back in September for another exciting year at Bradford Forster Academy.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Styles', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr D Styles
Headteacher