



# CLAYTON HALL ACADEMY



A part of Windsor  
Academy Trust

## Headteacher

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Place of registration: England



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CRE/JFI

10 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this message finds you well. As always, it's been a busy and purposeful week at Clayton Hall Academy, and I'm pleased to share some of the key highlights and updates with you.

This week, our year group assemblies focused on **e-safety**, a vital topic in today's digital world. Students explored how to stay safe online, how to recognise risks, and how to make responsible choices when using social media and other platforms. We know that technology plays a huge role in young people's lives, and these assemblies are designed to help them navigate it safely and confidently. We encourage you to talk to your child about what they learned and how you can work together to support their online safety. To help start the conversation, we've included a flyer all about **Snapchat**, which many of our students use regularly.

In addition to our regular assemblies, we welcomed the **NHS Mental Health Support Team** into school on Tuesday for a special session with all year groups. The focus was on anxiety, something that affects many people. The assembly helped students understand what anxiety is, why they might be feeling it, and how to manage those emotions. We're fortunate to have strong links with our local NHS team, and we want to reassure you that there is a wide range of support available in school. We've attached some of the resources shared during the assembly, which you may find helpful.

I'm delighted to tell you that we received a **Bronze Award** in the **Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's Bloomin' Landmarks competition**. This award is designed to celebrate local efforts to brighten up public spaces, and our eco-committee and gardening club students (and staff!) have worked hard to make our school grounds a welcoming and vibrant place. They have been digging flower and vegetable beds that were long-forgotten in our huge grounds, they have been composting, sharing wildflower seed packets with our local community, creating bug-hotels to help pollinators find a resting place over the winter and have all learned and contributed so much. It's lovely to see their efforts recognised!

I'm also incredibly proud to share that **Clayton Hall Academy has once again been recognised as a Microsoft Showcase School**—for the fourth year running! This prestigious award places us among a global community of schools leading the way in using technology to enhance learning. For our students, it means they're developing the digital skills they'll need to thrive in the future.



Meanwhile, for our staff, it's a wonderful recognition of their commitment to creating engaging and innovative learning experiences. My thanks to all of you for embracing technology so willingly.

Following a period of consultation, we have now formed a **Local Community Committee**<sup>1</sup> (LCC). Effective from 1 October 2025, this new committee replaces our previous Local Advisory Board and is designed to create a stronger, more direct partnership between the school and you - our community. The LCC is a diverse team of dedicated volunteers whose goal it is to make sure our school remains deeply connected to our local area so we can all thrive together on:

- Community: building and strengthening relationships, making sure we truly understand local needs.
- Celebration: sharing and promoting the achievements of our school and the wider Trust family locally.
- Local Insight: giving us local knowledge and evidence to ensure our school policies are working effectively in practice.

**Hot chocolate celebration!** Last Friday, I had the pleasure of sharing a hot chocolate moment with two wonderful Year 7 students (**Muhammad-A** and **Olivia**), and again today with students who were nominated for being top of the Sparx Reader league table<sup>2</sup> – well done to **Oscar** and **James**.

These moments are always a highlight of my week – it's an opportunity to pause, connect, and celebrate the brilliant things our students are doing. Whether it's for kindness, effort, or achievement, it's a joy to hear their stories (including last week's chat about our 'alleged' haunted building!) and to see their pride. It's a small gesture, but one that means a lot to students - and to me. Look out for pictures on Facebook and see if you can spot the special Hot Choc with the Head keepsake!

### **Finally...**

Please can I offer a quick reminder to **park considerately** when collecting your child from school. We do, on occasion, receive negative feedback from local residents and have seen ourselves at first-hand the congestion and danger that can be caused by inconsiderate parking. We have made sure that staff are on duty beside the main entrance every day, who are there trying to keep your children safe. Please can we ask that you do the same. We really do appreciate your support in keeping our site and surrounding area, safe and accessible for everyone.

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<sup>1</sup> [Local Community Committee | Clayton Hall Academy](#)

<sup>2</sup> Further information attached

10 October 2025

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Caty Reid', followed by a horizontal line.

CATY REID

Headteacher

- Encs Mental Health apps
- Snapchat flyer
- Sparx Reader League Table
- Smart School Uniform voucher

10 October 2025

**Dates for your diary:**

w/c 27 Oct	<b>HALF TERM</b> (school closed)
Mon 3 Nov	<b>School re-opens</b>
w/c 3 Nov	<b>Year 11 PPEs</b>
w/c 10 Nov	<b>Year 11 PPEs</b>
w/c 17 Nov	<b>Year 10 KAT tests</b>
Wed 19 Nov	<b>Year 8 Parents Evening</b>
w/c 24 Nov	<b>Year 7 residential to Stanley Head</b> (further info from Arbor or <a href="mailto:tlongshaw@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk">tlongshaw@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</a> )
Wed 3 Dec	<b>Year 11 Parents Evening</b>
Fri 5 Dec	<b>INSET DAY</b> (school closed to students)
Thur 11 Dec	<b>Year 10 trip to Shrewsbury Prison</b> (further info on Arbor & from <a href="mailto:astevens@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk">astevens@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk</a> )
Mon 22 Dec – Fri 2 Jan	<b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b> (school closed)
Mon 5 Jan 2026	<b>School re-opens</b> (students line up by 8.40am)