

## The Dixons Foundation at Dixons Music Primary and Dixons Trinity Academy

Our proposal to establish the Dixons Foundation aligns with our mission to challenge educational and social disadvantage; all children deserve a life of choice and opportunity.

Being established in the BD5 area of Bradford, the Foundation will act locally through a community based cradle to career model, grounded in two great schools; Dixons Music Primary and Dixons Trinity Academy.

There will also be a moral imperative to work regionally to drive systemic change towards cradle to career provision for all young people (both across Bradford / Leeds and into Liverpool and Manchester).

The Dixons Foundation will work alongside Dixons Music Primary and Dixons Trinity Academy.

## The Dixons Children's Hub (BD5)

The Dixons Children's Hub (BD5) will be the flagship initiative of the Dixons Foundation, providing an integrated pipeline of support for children, young people and families in the BD5 area of Bradford.

The Hub is being developed out of an awareness among leaders at Dixons Music / Dixons Trinity through looking at responses to a listening campaign, that an excellent education at an inclusive school is *necessary* but not *sufficient* for young people to enjoy lives of choice and opportunity. Many students require deeper and more wide-ranging support than a school can provide. The Dixons Children's Hub therefore will work closely with Dixons Music and Dixons Trinity Academy to ensure that local children and young people have the support that they need to:

- **Be safe and well-supported**
  - Children and young people are free from harm and know how to keep themselves safe. They are well-supported at home.
- **Be healthy**
  - Children and young people are physically, socially and emotionally healthy.
- **Achieve strong outcomes academically**
  - Children and young people achieve strong academic results and leave school prepared for the next stage of university or a real alternative. Families are actively involved in their education.
- **Develop strong relationships and networks**
  - Children and young people have strong peer and family relationships and engage positively with their local community.

## The Dixons Children's Hub (BD5) Offer

### Perinatal Support

#### What are we aiming to do?

- Our perinatal offer will support parents with children aged 0-4 and focus on reducing parental stress; promoting positive mental and physical health and wellbeing; encouraging social connection and peer support; and information sharing. Our Perinatal Lead will build strong relationships with parents in order to provide continuity of care and to support them to access different levels of care at different stages.

#### How will we achieve this?

- Hosting antenatal and postnatal workshops
- Providing antenatal education classes to develop parents' ability to make informed decisions
- Connecting new parents through social communication groups
- Offering tailored, one-to-one support to encourage and develop early language and promote positive, nurturing play techniques
- Leading pregnancy and postnatal 'walk and talks'

## Early Years Workforce Development

### What are we aiming to do?

- The early years are the most important phase of a child's development. Evidence shows that the amount and quality of early childhood education and care a child receives is a key influence on their school readiness. We aim to provide high quality development opportunities for the Early Years workforce at all stages of their careers; to further develop practitioners' knowledge and pedagogy in order to improve children's early learning outcomes; and to increase awareness of the importance of the Early Years sector.

### How will we achieve this?

- Delivering high quality training and opportunities to share best practice through our local Early Years Network
- Supporting working and aspiring practitioners through a career pathway, for example by offering a Level 3 apprenticeship with Education and Skills
- Teaching the Early Years Foundation Degree in partnership with Bradford University
- Building capacity by supporting parents to become trained Peep practitioners

## Family & Community

### What are we aiming to do?

- We believe families deserve support to build nurturing home learning environments in which children can thrive. Our work with families aims to reduce parental stress, increase parental capacity and foster communities of mutual support. We believe every child has the right to grow up in a community where they are safe and well-supported, healthy, can achieve well academically and have strong relationships and social networks.

### How will we achieve this?

- Delivering Family Links parenting programmes
- Providing targeted 1:1 support for parents and/or families
- Offering a range of social groups to build self-esteem, overcome social isolation and foster mutual support
- Community organising through establishing Citizens UK Bradford branch
- Running free holiday activities
- Training practitioners to host therapeutic Family Group sessions with The School & Family Works

## Youth Engagement

### What are we aiming to do?

- We recognise that all young people may need support at different ages and stages as they go through life from cradle to career, in order to be safe and well supported, be healthy, achieve well academically and to have strong relationships and social networks.
- We support local young people who may be facing barriers to learning, especially with their social and emotional wellbeing; broaden their access to a range of extra-curricular activities; and offer leadership development opportunities to them. We work with young people on both an individual and group basis, as well as facilitating peer support between young people.

### How will we achieve this?

- Collaborating with school staff to support students' attendance, personal, social and emotional development, and attainment
- Collaborating with community partners to engage young people in a wide range of sport and personal development activities
- Offering youth leadership programmes, for example through Citizens UK Bradford branch
- Working in partnership with the Bradford LA and local youth services to ensure local young people have access to the support they need

