EAST CAMPUS
NEVILLE AVENUE
SPALDING
PE11 2EH

OCTOBER 2026 • ISSUE 7

WEST CAMPUS
PINCHBECK ROAD
SPALDING
PE11 1QF

# TULIP ACADEMY

MAKING EVERY MOMENT MATTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As the days grow colder and the autumn leaves begin to fall, we have reached the end of a very busy and rewarding first half term at Tulip Academy.

There has been so much to celebrate across both campuses, and I would like to thank our wonderful staff for their continued hard work, creativity and commitment to Making Every Moment Matter. As you will see from our pathway updates, our pupils have been enjoying a wealth of learning opportunities, both in and beyond the classroom.

Our programme of visits, trips and events has continued throughout the term, culminating in yesterday's exciting trip to Tuby's Fair for many of our pupils and today's pumpkin carving and decorating competitions! Our KS4 Formal Pathway students have also begun weekly college visits and work experience opportunities, bringing learning to life and putting our values of Aspiration and Engagement into action.

This term has also seen the launch of our new VALUED framework across both campuses. It has been wonderful to see pupils embracing our values and staff finding creative ways to recognise their achievements. Pupils can now earn VALUED points, weekly celebration certificates and Headteacher's Awards for going 'above and beyond'. As points accumulate, we will be introducing VALUED badge recommendations and opportunities for pupils to exchange points for rewards. We are also exploring how to share these achievements with families through Bromcom/MCAS, so please bear with us while we work on this!

A special thank you goes to our fantastic Friends of Tulip Academy (FOTA), who organised a brilliant disco at West Campus last week and have launched a second-hand uniform shop. Our School Council also deserves recognition for collecting Harvest Festival donations and delivering them to Agape Food Bank. They have also been busy reviewing our school meal provision, including welcoming a visit from prospective food provider Apetito.

Looking ahead, there is plenty more to come next term. Please check Seesaw for sponsorship forms for our upcoming 'Get Moving' Children in Need event, where each class will choose its own sponsored activity. Time to start collecting those signatures!

Finally, thank you to all our families for your continued support and partnership.
I hope everyone enjoys a happy, restful half-term break. I think we have all earned a little time to hibernate over the next two weeks!

We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting half term on Monday 9 November 2026.



# ATTENDANCE

Attendance is always a priority for Tulip Academy Spalding as we know that pupils cannot achieve their full potential if they do not regularly attend school. Tulip Academy Spalding has an aspirational target of 95% overall whole school attendance. We know how important it is to work with parents and carers as well as other professionals to support pupils to attend school every day.



We have a dedicated attendance leader - Kat Garland who oversees all aspects of tracking, monitoring and supporting pupil attendance. Should you wish to contact the attendance lead please do so by email Kat.Garland@tulip-cit.co.uk or phoning school on 01775 725566.

In line with our attendance policy we work with parents/carers at the earliest point of concern, to help address any underlying reasons for irregular, low or persistent absence.

**A reminder in relation to applications for leave of absence for a student during term time:**

The following guidance will still apply, exceptional circumstances are regarded as circumstances beyond the parents' control, e.g. a period of serious illness/bereavement in the family or a religious festival. The cost of a holiday, the availability of flights, birthdays, weddings, public events and gifts are not regarded as exceptional circumstances.

The following guidance can be found in the Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK

There will now be a two penalty notice limit and escalation in cases of repeat offences.

Only two penalty notices can be issued to the same parent in respect of the same child within a three-year rolling period and any second notice within that period is charged at a higher rate:

• The first penalty notice issued to a parent in respect of a particular pupil will be charged at £160 if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

• A second penalty notice issued to the same parent in respect of the same pupil is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days.

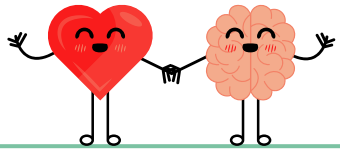
In a case where the national threshold is met for a third time (or subsequent times) within those 3 years, alternative action should be taken instead. This will often include considering prosecution but may include other tools such as one of the other attendance legal interventions.

The threshold is 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session. (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week). The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. two sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further eight within the Autumn Term).

# MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDERS

There are many types of support available. Your mental health first aiders can help you access it.

Mental health first aiders are a point of contact if you, or someone you are concerned about, are experiencing poor mental health or emotional distress. They are not therapists, or psychiatrists, but can give you initial support and signpost to appropriate help if required.





**Paula Reeves**
**Paula.Reeves@tulip-cit.co.uk**



**Olivia Lloyd-Casey**
**Olivia.Casey@tulip-cit.co.uk**

# BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to the following:



**SEPTEMBER**

Ben (Spruce)
Isobelle (Elder)
Bethany (Elder)
Dilan (Willow)
Austin (Rowan)
Kyle (Lime)
Ryan (Birch)
Jerry (Cedar)
Kasper (Pineapples)
Harry (Mangos)
Jack (Apples)
Bobby (Cedar)

**OCTOBER**

Ryan (Spruce)
Jack (Sycamore)
Emily (Maple)
Kace (Elder)
Kenzie (Oak)
Hayden (Sycamore)
Elsie (Pears)
Greyson (Pears)
Scarlett (Cherry)
Oliver (Pears)

# KEY DATES



**WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER**
WEST - BRIGHTBITES DENTAL WORKSHOP



**MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER**
EAST - INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

**TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER**
WEST - INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS



**FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER**
FINAL DAY OF TERM 1



**WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER**
PARENTS EVENING




**MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER**
START OF TERM 2




**THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER**
WEST - CHRISTMAS DINNER

**THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER**
EAST - CHRISTMAS DINNER

# SAFEGUARDING

If your child is worried about anything, there are lots of people at Tulip Academy that they can speak to.
Click here to read our Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy.






**Luke Allen**
Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Olivia Lloyd-Casey**
Health & Wellbeing Lead & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Paula Reeves**
Inclusion Lead & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Dominic Mason**
Operations Lead & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Toni Wand**
Deputy Headteacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

TEL: 01775 725566
EMAIL: ENQUIRIES@TULIP-CIT.CO.UK

# AUTUMN TERM UPDATE



**Pre-Formal**
This term, Pre-Formal pupils have explored a range of traditional tales through engaging sensory and physical activities. As part of their learning, pupils brought Jack and the Beanstalk to life by creating and climbing their own giant beanstalk using a climbing frame and green materials to support their individual physiotherapy programmes. During Sensations sessions, pupils also celebrated Navratri through a variety of multi-sensory experiences, supporting their experiences of different cultures and traditions while encouraging exploration, engagement and enjoyment.

**Informal *(EYFS & KS1)***
This term, EYFS and KS1 pupils have been exploring their topic, Farm to Fork, through a range of engaging and hands-on activities. Pupils investigated different farm animals using a variety of sensory experiences, including textures and sounds, to support their learning. To develop fine motor skills, they also took part in practical activities such as cutting cabbages and pulling carrots, helping them to make meaningful links to real life experiences.





**Informal *(KS2 and KS3)***
This term, pupils in KS2 and KS3 have taken part in a range of engaging environmental care and sensory activities. As part of their environmental learning, pupils enjoyed a fairy garden rescue, helping to save fairies trapped in thick, oozy mud. During sensory and physical development sessions, pupils practised their movement skills by jumping across the classroom on toadstools and navigating imaginative obstacle courses, carefully avoiding the sharks and crocodiles in the water below. These activities supported problem-solving, physical coordination and imaginative play in a fun and motivating way

## Informal (*KS3 and above*)

This term, KS3 and above have been exploring the topic Magical Worlds and Media through a range of engaging, sensory-rich experiences. During Communication sessions, the children enjoyed discovering Paddington Bear, exploring his love of oranges by squeezing fresh fruit, investigating different textures and smells, and tasting marmalade sandwiches. In Discover sessions, they explored the story Sing through a multi-sensory approach, using touch, smell and taste to investigate materials linked to the characters and events in the story. The children have also participated in water-based activities inspired by Moana, developing their understanding of floating and sinking through practical exploration. These activities have supported sensory awareness, communication, engagement and curiosity in a meaningful and enjoyable way.



# AUTUMN TERM UPDATE



## Semi-Formal

Pupils on the Semi-Formal Pathway at Tulip Academy have made a fantastic start to the 2026/2027 academic year, settling into school routines and showing enthusiasm for our Farm to Fork topic.

In Maths, learners developed their understanding of place value, position and direction through farm-themed activities, practising positional language and giving and following directions. In English, stories including A Squash and a Squeeze and Fantastic Mr Fox inspired discussions about characters and settings while developing communication and literacy skills. In STEM, learners investigated plants and seeds, exploring the conditions needed for growth and what happens when these are missing. Some extended their learning by designing and building their own greenhouse models! In Art, pupils explored fruit printing and mark-making, taking inspiration from Giuseppe Arcimboldo's imaginative artwork and Vincent van Gogh's sunflower paintings.

During Forest School, learners connected with nature and explored our outdoor spaces. Caring for our school pets, including some exciting new arrivals, helped develop responsibility and kindness. Across History, Geography and RE, pupils explored changes in farming, how land is used and the importance of food in different religions and celebrations.

We are proud of the enthusiasm, creativity and collaboration learners have shown throughout the term. After a well-earned rest, we look forward to exploring our next topic: Music and Theatre!

Thank you to our families and stakeholders for your continued support.

The Semi-Formal Pathway Team

Tulip Academy





## Formal

Pupils on the Formal Pathway at Tulip Academy have made a fantastic start to the 2026/2027 academic year, settling back into school routines and showing enthusiasm for their learning. In Maths, pupils have explored place value, the four operations and position and direction. In English, KS3 pupils have been studying short stories, developing their use of paragraphs and character descriptions. Meanwhile, KS4 pupils have focused on understanding different texts, finding key information and asking clear, concise questions to retrieve specific details, helping them prepare for their first exams before Christmas.

We are also incredibly proud of the effort pupils have shown in completing their CAT4 assessments. These explore how pupils think and solve problems using words, numbers, patterns and shapes. Alongside classroom assessment, the results will help us understand pupils' strengths, identify where support may be needed and guide how we set targets and monitor progress. Well done to all our Formal Pathway pupils for their hard work and positive start to the year!

# AUTUMN TERM UPDATE



## Post-16

Post 16 have hit the ground running from the start with so many engaging activities taking place in the local and wider community as our students develop their life skills in preparation for adulthood. Work experience has involved visiting the SENSE charity shop in town, sorting and organizing donations. We participated in the delivery of Harvest gifts to the Lighthouse foodbank and engaged with other local organizations over the term.

We have been exploring career options and experiencing life in the workplace by visiting the library, a farm and a variety of shops, interviewing workers about their roles.
Work also continued in the classroom by developing our life skills, including ironing, washing and cleaning.
One of the main highlights was our time at Sessions House and the silent disco as an end of term treat after all of our hard work! We all had a magical time as we engaged in so many social interactions with our peers and adults.



### What's coming up next term?

As we look ahead, we're excited to share a preview of the themes and learning focuses your children will be learning and investigating.

- **Whole School:** Embedding the new Culture and Enrichment theme troughout the school, in every pathway. There is further information about this on the following page.
- **EYFS** *(Apples)* ***FARM TO FORK:*** *Children will explore where food comes from, learn about growing fruits and vegetables, discover farm animals, and enjoy sensory, play-based experiences linked to food and nature.*
- **Pre-Formal Pathway** *(Mangos)* ***TRADITIONAL TALES:*** *Pupils will immerse themselves in familiar stories through sensory storytelling, role play, music, and creative activities, helping to develop communication and engagement.*
- **Informal Pathway** *(Apricots, Kiwi, Pineapples & Grapes)* ***FAIRY TALES AND MAGICAL WORLDS:*** *Each class within our informal pathway have decided upon a magical story or world in which they'll base their sessions around. They will take inspriation from stories to deliver exciting and engaging sessions that inspire curiousity, capture engagment and promote communication.*
- **Semi-Formal Pathways** (Pears, Plums, Cedar, Ash, Rowan, Oak, Birch, Hazel, Beech & Cherry) **FARM TO FORK:** Pupils will investigate how food is grown, produced, and prepared while developing their understanding of healthy eating, sustainability, and the journey from farm to table through practical, cross-curricular learning.
- **Formal Pathway** *(Willow, Lime, Elder, Sycamore, Maple)* ***SUBJECT SPECIFIC:*** *Settling into the new year and familiarising students with the new timetable and slight changes to subjects. Our formal students will be focusing on embedding the new Culture and enrichment themes (see next page for more information).*
- **Post 16** *(Chestnut & Spruce)* ***LIFE LONG LEARNING:*** *Post 16 continue to build on their independence for life. This September within post-16, they will be embedding the new culture and enrichment curriculum within their school week.*

**Autumn Term Knowledge Organisers - COMING SOON!**

Keep an eye on Seesaw, where you'll soon find the Summer term knowledge organisers.
These will give you a more detailed overview about what your child will be learning in their class.

TEL: 01775 725566
EMAIL: ENQUIRIES@TULIP-CIT.CO.UK

# TEEN TOPS FANCY DRESS POLL



**We are so proud of you Sophieanna!**

**Read what The Spalding & South Holland Voice had to say below:**

A 15-year-old pupil at the Tulip Academy topped the straw poll to win Spalding's annual Pumpkin Festival fancy dress competition. Sophieanna Morgan won the £25 first prize in the competition run by the Spalding Lions group.
Mum Preechaya Naksawat said: "We're very proud. A lot of effort went into the costume and Sophieanna was delighted to win."

Tulip Academy Spalding

# Launching Our WHOLE-SCHOOL CULTURE & ENRICHMENT JOURNEY

**One School • Six Shared Themes • Every Learner**

Our six themes have been carefully chosen to help pupils develop confidence, independence, curiosity and an understanding of the world around them.

Although learning looks different for every child, each theme will be explored in ways that are meaningful, engaging and accessible for all.

From assemblies and classroom learning to trips, visitors, celebrations and community experiences, these themes will bring our curriculum to life.

## AUTUMN 1

### Identity, Belonging & Community

Exploring ourselves, our families, friendships, school community and the things that make each of us unique.

## AUTUMN 2

### Light, Giving & Kindness

Celebrating kindness, generosity and the many traditions that bring people together through festivals, acts of giving and the symbolism of light.

## SPRING 1

### Aspirations & New Beginnings

Encouraging pupils to dream, set goals, develop independence and embrace new opportunities with confidence.

## SPRING 2

### Equality & Respect

Celebrating diversity, understanding fairness, respecting differences and recognising that everyone belongs.

## SUMMER 1

### Wellbeing & Environment

Looking after ourselves, each other and our planet through healthy choices, outdoor learning and caring for the environment.

## SUMMER 2

### Celebration & Transition

Reflecting on achievements, celebrating successes and preparing positively for the next stage of each learner's journey.

**These themes will be explored through:**

- Creative learning
- Community visits and visitors
- Outdoor and sensory experiences
- Arts, music and celebration
- Enterprise and life skills
- Assemblies and special events
- Personal development and wellbeing

Every pathway will access these themes in ways that meet the individual needs, interests and strengths of our learners.

*Growing together. Learning together. Belonging together.*

# TULIP ACADEMY APP MENU

Welcome to our App Menu!

Below, you'll find a selection of apps we use to support communication, learning and everyday school life. Simply click on the icons to go straight to each app.

If you need any help accessing or using them, please don't hesitate to contact the school—we're always happy to help.

## MCAS

The MCAS app is a secure parent portal designed by Bromcom to help parents and carers stay informed about their child's school life. It provides real-time access to important information such as attendance, behaviour, timetables, announcements, and academic progress, all in one convenient place. Parents can also receive instant notifications, check the school calendar, and make payments for trips and other activities.
The MCAS app is available on both iOS and Android, making it easy to stay connected on the go.

## SEESAW

Seesaw is a digital learning platform that allows children to share their work and classroom activities with their families through a secure online journal. Parents and carers can view photos, videos, artwork, class tasks, and other creative projects their child uploads, helping them stay connected with learning at school. Families receive notifications when new work is added and can like or comment on posts, keeping communication positive and engaging. To join, parents need an invitation from the teacher and can access Seesaw through the mobile app or any web browser. Please note, class teachers will respond to messages during the school day within 48 hours.

## EVIDENCE FOR LEARNING

Evidence for Learning (EfL) is a secure digital platform used by schools to capture and share your child's learning, progress, and key moments from the classroom. Teachers can upload photos, videos, and notes showing what your child is achieving, helping you stay connected with their day-to-day learning. Families can view evidence shared by the school, comment to support learning conversations, and even upload their own photos or videos from home to help build a fuller picture of progress. The newer EfL Family App makes this even easier, offering improved features and positive feedback from parents and carers.

## ACCELERATED READER BY RENAISSANCE

Accelerated Reader by Renaissance offers access to more than 220,000 quizzes aligned to a wide range of books, allowing learners to choose texts that match their interests and reading levels. Through a simple cycle of choose, read, quiz, and analise, students build reading stamina, vocabulary, and comprehension skills. The program supports reading for pleasure as well as structured literacy development, helping schools foster a strong reading culture and encouraging students to develop confidence and a lifelong love of reading.

TEL: 01775 725566
EMAIL: ENQUIRIES@TULIP-CIT.CO.UK

# EARLY YEARS LEARNING ALLIANCE

**Targeted Positive Activities**

Targeted Positive Activities offer a range of sessions including community groups, youth groups and holiday clubs held at a variety of local venues across Lincolnshire. The sessions provide a range of activities in a safe and welcoming environment, giving parents and carers a short break.

- Community groups for children with disabilities aged 5-18yrs
- Youth groups for children with disabilities aged 11-18yrs
- Holiday clubs for children with disabilities aged 5-18yrs

At the sessions, children with disabilities and their families are supported to maintain their quality of life, access high-quality care and learning opportunities, and receive encouragement to help children and young people remain living at home with their families. They are also supported to access as many services as possible within their local communities, enabling them to go on to live as independently as possible.

Each group is different, with the children and young people able to have a say in what they would like to do. The groups are led by caring, experienced and skilled educators who enable those attending to socialise and try new activities at a pace that feels comfortable for them.

Community groups and youth groups both run for 1.5 hours and holiday clubs run for 5 hours.

The service is subsidised by Lincolnshire County Council. The fees are as follows:

£9.60 for youth and community groups

£32 for holiday clubs

To request access to this support, please complete the online form here: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=t9BNla4jfkqBhzUmiO9ciFZ88-uj4_tOol4oZ-ZZfh5UNkpMR0E1NElIQUtJVDJXM0tZR0oxTEpNVy4u

For more information please contact CWDLincolnshire@eyalliance.org.uk or visit www.eyalliance.org.uk

The Children with Disabilities Support Services now has a QR code if you feel you can donate to support this service.

Thank you!

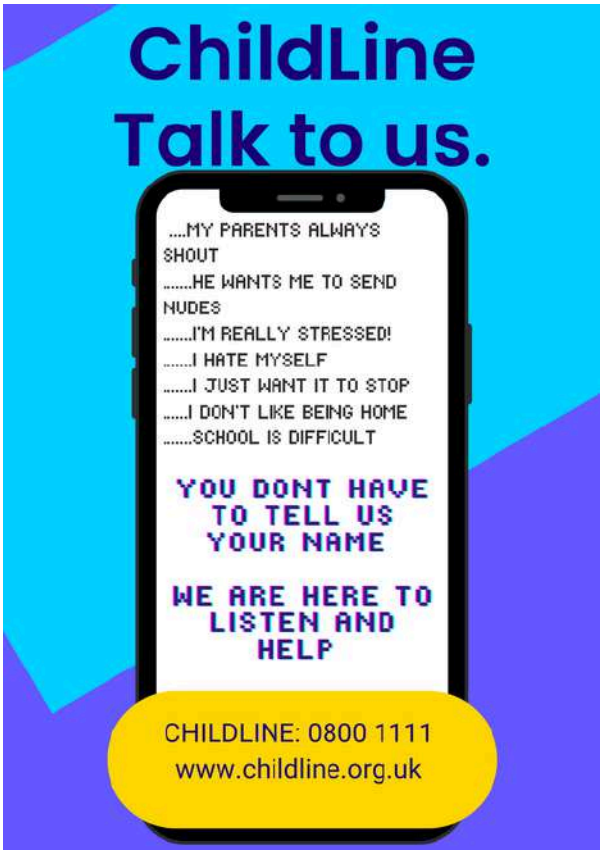
# SEESAW

We would like to remind parents and carers that Seesaw continues to be an important platform for sharing learning and classroom updates. Through Seesaw, you can see regular snapshots of your child's work, receive announcements from their class team, and stay connected with what is happening in school. We encourage all families to check the app frequently to ensure you don't miss key information or celebrations of your child's achievements. If you need support accessing Seesaw or linking to your child's account, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to help.



# SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

To help ensure families know where support is available, we have included a list of links to local food banks and community support services within this bulletin. Please share these resources with anyone who may benefit and remind families that seeking support is a positive and proactive step. No one should face this time of year alone, and these services are here to provide practical help when it's needed most.




- Food help - Connect to Support Lincolnshire
- Get emergency food | Trussell
- Food & living - North West Leicestershire District Council
- Home - Citizens Advice LeicesterShire
- Food Banks | Ask Lion - Nottingham City Directory
- The most dangerous time of year | NSPCC
- Support & advice for families | NSPCC
- Family Action: Supporting families at every age and stage of life
- StepChange Debt Charity. Free Expert Debt Help & Advice
- Emergency grants, loans and money help - Shelter England
- Find urgent support

For some families, this time of year can feel particularly unsafe or isolating. We remain alert to signs of abuse and continue to offer a safe, non-judgemental space for anyone who may need support.

- Getting help for domestic violence and abuse - NHS
- Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Specialist Service
- I need help - information and support on domestic abuse
- Homepage - National Domestic Abuse Helpline
- Contact Us | Samaritans K
- Keep Children Safe Online: Information, advice, support - Internet Matters
- https://www.internetmatters.org/






# E-SAFETY

Play and talk with your child about the games they enjoy so you can agree on which are age-appropriate. Keep the conversation open about who they play with, what they share, and why some games are better saved for when they're older. Agree on limits together and discuss in-game purchases to avoid surprises.




🛡️ E-Safety Tips for Staying Safe Online

Here are some simple ways to stay safe when using the internet:

- Keep your personal information private
- Don't share your full name, address, school name, or phone number online.
- Use strong passwords
- Choose passwords that are hard to guess and never share them with anyone except a trusted adult.
- Be kind online
- Treat others how you'd like to be treated. If someone is mean or upsetting, tell an adult.
- Only talk to people you know
- Don't chat with strangers online, even if they seem friendly.
- Ask before downloading or clicking
- Some links or downloads can be unsafe. Always check with an adult first.
- Tell someone if something feels wrong
- If you see or hear something online that makes you feel uncomfortable, talk to a trusted adult straight away.

Click here to view CYBERWISE for useful resources

# HELP STRENGTHEN LOCAL SCHOOLS BY DONATING UNUSED APPRENTICESHIP LEVY FUNDS

CIT is seeking support from businesses that pay into the Apprenticeship Levy but don't use all their funds. By transferring unspent Levy contributions, organisations can directly help develop skilled, motivated apprentices who play essential roles in our schools - from supporting teaching and SEND provision to administration and vital operational services.

Apprentices at CIT receive high-quality training, structured mentoring, and a clear development pathway, giving them the confidence and experience to build meaningful long-term careers in education. Levy funds can help us grow a dedicated workforce that shares our commitment to inclusion and excellence.

**We're looking for organisations that:**

- Have a payroll over £3 million (Levy-paying employers).
- Don't fully use their Apprenticeship Levy funds.
- Are willing to transfer their unused funds to support apprenticeships within CIT.

By partnering with us, businesses can make a real impact on young people, schools, and communities across the region.

**Interested in supporting CIT?**

Contact: Lauren.Bedford@citacademies.co.uk