

Executive Headteacher Thursday 20th January 2022 UPDATE

Dear parents/carers, students and staff,

I wanted to write to you today, to share an update regarding the current ongoing support being offered to The Thomas Cowley High School by the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust (SLAT).

Today, I have received great news from the Department for Education (DfE) Advisory Board meeting, which took place on 19th January 2022. I am pleased to be able to share that the application for the transfer of The Thomas Cowley High School to join the SLAT has been approved.

Please be fully reassured that all of our current Trust schools are performing extremely well, with the young people at Spalding Academy and Bourne Academy over the past years being able to enjoy their learning in Good schools that are both aspiring to Outstanding, with strong behaviour management and exceptional teaching and learning in these schools. Over the past academic year, we have also been able to apply the same high level of standards at Giles Academy and this is what we now want for The Thomas Cowley High School too.

Having now visited The Thomas Cowley High School on a number of occasions, I know that the SLAT vision is one that the school will benefit from adopting, with our philosophy of offering exceptional non-selective mixed secondary school education to young people.

The next steps are for the SLAT to continue offering a high level of interim support for The Thomas Cowley High School, until we transfer the school formally into the SLAT by September 2022.

Please be reassured that we have built up the leadership and operational capacity to work with this fourth school and our decision to lead The Thomas Cowley High School will have no detrimental impact on Spalding Academy at all.

My vision and that of the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust has always been to offer exceptional non-selective secondary education to young people working within a highly selective area and this is something we feel the students at Thomas Cowley also rightly deserve. All young people deserve to go to a school that is at least good and one that they feel proud of, so I hope that parents/carers, students and staff will all support us as we now transfer The Thomas Cowley High School into the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust.

If you have any questions about this matter, please email the school office and your enquiry will be directed to the appropriate Leadership member of staff.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Lucy Conley

Executive Headteacher SLATrust