

Head of School

Friday 28th April 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

What another great week we have had at Spalding Academy!

Today, our Year 9 students took part in a range of workshops conducted by 'Prison Me No Way' organisation. Our students were really engaged in the sessions where they learnt about making informed choices, regarding Law and Order. The students had various interactive workshops including: Drugs and County Lines, Domestic Abuse and Consent, First Aid, discussing choices with ex-prison officers, making informed choices regarding alcohol, keeping safe around rail lines and electricity and even a visit in a replica prison cell which was on the school site! There were some very strong moral messages given during the sessions which I know our students would have listened to.



On Monday, we welcomed Matt from Workpays who spoke to our students in an assembly and worked with a small group of students in Years 10 and 11 that have shown an interest in Apprenticeships, as a possibility at either Post 16 or Post 18. It was great to see our students engage and asking questions, but also begin to appreciate the vast amount of jobs available, even at 16 years old! During the workshop, there was opportunity for students to search for themselves and set up accounts with the Government website to start to receive notifications of apprenticeships relevant to them.

Apprenticeships are becoming an increasingly popular option for young people to progress with their education whilst gaining on-the-job experience and earning money. We want our students to have a full

and in-depth knowledge of the apprenticeships available. It is important they understand the grades required for each different type of apprenticeship and the way the system works. ASK is the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge programme for schools and colleges that is funded by the National Apprenticeship Service and the Department for Education. The programme is designed to give all schools and other educational establishments across England free support to develop and transform apprenticeship awareness activities, so that students, parents, teachers and governors can be informed and inspired about the range of apprenticeship opportunities.

Our Year 7 Buddy Scheme launched to our Year 7 on Tuesday. This is one of our many student leadership opportunities that we offer our younger students. This is an opportunity to support our new Year 7 intake by helping and guiding them around school and answering all of those hundreds of questions our new students may have! The students' needs to apply for the position, as this also gives them an opportunity to speak positively about why they should be chosen!

In assembly this week with our Year 11 students, we shared information regarding the National Citizen Service (NCS) and the 'Away from home residential experience' they offer. These experiences will provide our students with the opportunity to embark on some new adventures with their friends, make new friends, develop and strengthen their skills. Thousands of young people nationally have signed up for NCS already this summer, with over 750,000 young people having taken part in the programme since 2010. We always get a huge amount of our students taking part in this excellent community opportunity, so I am hopeful our students can use their summer holiday wisely and support our local community.

Finally, I am really pleased to announce that Spalding Academy was the overall winner of the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust Sports Tournaments. The event across the Trust gave our students to opportunity to take part in a sports competition and hone in on their sports skills. I would like to thank all our students for taking part and to our sport staff team who always go above and beyond to support our sports teams.

As a reminder to parents/carers a school bag is essential for our students. We have a small number of students who do not carry a school bag. Although our blazers have small pockets, students cannot be fully equipped by just using these pockets. We expect students to have a school bag each day to carry their school books, pencil cases and drinks bottle in. Students who do not have a suitable school bag will receive a strike on their card, as per our behaviour policy.

I wish everyone a happy extended Bank Holiday weekend. Due to the National Teacher strike day, students in Year 10 and 11 are expected to attend school on Tuesday 2nd May 2023 with students in Years 7 to 9 will be studying at home. All students are back in school on Wednesday 3rd May 2023.

Your sincerely,



Mrs Jemma Curson

Head of School, Spalding Academy

For the **latest news**

You can follow Spalding Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

- www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy
- www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy
- www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT

At **Spalding Academy** we encourage you to aspire, embrace challenge and retain the knowledge, understanding and skills to **ACHIEVE**.

In doing so to be resilient, lifelong learners, responsible citizens and prepared for the future.



Academic

We will offer you a very wide range of subjects that are challenging, accessible and inclusive for all. This will be balanced with a variety of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities. A key aspect of this will be the promotion of reading and writing to make sure you have essential life skills.



Choice

The abilities of all our students are diverse and you all have many talents. It is extremely important that we enable you to have wide-ranging positive learning experiences to maximise your future opportunities. This will include exploring and researching the jobs and industries that you are interested in and supporting you in developing your knowledge of careers required to be a success.



High Standards

We will provide you with ambitious courses to ensure that you achieve your full potential in national exams so that you can aspire to the best future education, employment or training possible. We will also support you in your understanding of how to get there and to believe in your own ability... you can do it!



Intelligent Assessment

We will provide you with assessments that allow you to understand how you are performing in school, as well as enabling your teachers to plan your learning so that you can do your best, including 'forensic' marking by your teachers to support your learning and lots of support, with many planned intervention sessions.



Equipped

We will offer you a strong programme of personal, health, social, careers and economic education that ensures you are exposed to the experiences and opportunities needed to succeed in life and so that you can lead a positive and healthy lifestyle in the wider community and in society.



Values

We promote and expect high levels of behaviour, both in and out of lessons, so that you can do your best. We encourage you to value equality and diversity and demonstrate mutual respect to your peers and all adults, regardless of cultures, faiths or beliefs. All young people deserve to have an education free from bullying and prejudice.



Esteem

We believe in working with all our young people to build your well-being so that you can develop as a confident, resilient and independent learner who can be proud of their achievements. We will teach you to be organised and independent, take pride in your work and develop your appreciation of culture and society beyond your own experience. We will work with you to understand how to maintain healthy relationships with others and how to look after your mental health.