

# Head of School

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Welcome to a new academic year of 2023-24. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday and are ready for the new academic year ahead. It is great to see so many enthusiastic, smart and happy students back at our academy (even if the weather is glorious for our return to school!).

As we start this new academic year, I should like to extend my best wishes to staff, parents/carers, governors and, most importantly, our students for a successful year ahead.

The year ahead will bring so many opportunities here at Spalding Academy. Of course, we pride ourselves on our academic excellence, but a school is so much more. We look forward to all of the other opportunities whether they be in sports, the arts, drama, cultural links and trips.

Our site developments over this summer holidays have been phenomenal. Over £3 million has been invested on new developments at Spalding Academy as our school continues to grow due to being over-subscribed with students wanting to join our successful school.

Our brand new state-of-the-art eight-classroom block is now in use with our Geography and Business departments already feeling at home, especially with the air-conditioning this week. We will be officially opening the school block later in the term.

We have invested £130,000 in four new toilet blocks in the main school building and these are a great addition to our school site. We have also fully refurbished two of our performing arts classrooms. We have also implemented several of our student voice suggestions too such as including water fountains and a refresh to our canteen menu.

We will continue to invest in our school as our students deserve the best facilities!

I was delighted with our exceptionally high headline figures for our Summer 2023 examination season. Our Year 11 leavers have made exceptional progress (provisional data), which is significantly above the national average. This is a superb achievement, especially when we all knew the Government have adjusted the GCSE standards to pre-covid levels. Many of our students have continued their educational journey with the Trust, in our Sixth Form. We wish our class of 2023 the very best in their futures.

Next Thursday, we will be holding the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust Upper School Awards Evening at the Springfield Events & Conference Centre. This will be a fantastic evening which will see our Trust celebrate the excellent Year 11 results that have been received this summer across our Trust schools.



I should like to extend a special welcome to our new Year 7 students. They have embraced their new secondary school journey with us this week. I have seen tears of joy and laughter (and some nervous tears!). This is all part of their new journey with us. Our new Year 7 students have certainly left an impression on our school already. My thanks go out to our Year 7 parents/carers for working with us to make this transition smooth for our new students. Students have embraced our transition packs that were sent out in the post, including completing the set reading book and student projects. Also, we have given out free stationary to those who have required this too. I have been very impressed with all Year 7 students – they are very friendly, helpful and super organised.

If you do have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact our Year 7 Lead Mrs Bennett via her email address: [fylipa.Bennett@spaldingacademy.org.uk](mailto:fylipa.Bennett@spaldingacademy.org.uk)

For all our new parents/carers and a reminder to our other parents/carers, we share many, many of our positive news stories and activities on our social media platforms – I do encourage you to follow Spalding Academy on these platforms they are:

- [www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy](https://www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy)
- [www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy)
- [www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT](https://www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT)

There is also a wealth of important information on our school website - [www.spaldingacademy.gov.uk](http://www.spaldingacademy.gov.uk) including term dates, uniform expectations and safeguarding information. Please take your time to view our website where you can find important parent/carer news.

For our new parents information, we have reviewed our banned items list for our Trust and we feel now is the right time to ban students bringing into school any item that would be classed as a bladed item, which will include students' own scissors and pencil sharpeners. All classrooms are in the process of having a desk sharpener for students to access and we will provide other items needed for lessons (i.e. scissors as required). We feel this change is necessary to support our safeguarding measures. Please ensure these items are removed.

Please can I remind parents/carers that if you need your child to leave site for an appointment, we need to have confirmation from you. We cannot accept handwritten notes for safety reasons. Please use our [attendance@spaldingacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@spaldingacademy.org.uk) or text 07860 055665 with full details of the student name, reason for leaving school and who will be collecting them (only contacts recorded on our system).

The world of education seems to be constantly changing, presenting new challenges and demands. However, amidst all of the changes and improvements we make, we must never forget that we are a values based non selective school with very high expectations for all of our students. Quite simply, our school motto is **Aspire, Challenge, Achieve** and I am determined to fulfil our fundamental aims and allow our students to receive a first-class education which allows them to fulfil their ambitions and aspirations.

Best wishes for the year ahead and enjoy the sunshine this weekend!

Your sincerely,



**Mrs Jemma Curson**  
Head of School, Spalding Academy

## Upcoming key dates



Prospective students in **years 4 to 6** and their parents/carers are invited to our

# Open Evening

**Tuesday 3rd October 2023**  
5.30pm to 8.00pm

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SPALDING ACADEMY**

Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

For students in years 10 and 11 who are considering their post-16 options, Bourne Academy Sixth Form will also have a separate Open Evening in November 2023.



Years 10 & 11 from all schools in the local area are welcome to our

# SIXTH FORM Open Evening

**Thursday 9th November 2023**  
6.00pm to 8.00pm

**SAVE THE DATE**

**BOURNE ACADEMY**

Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

## For the latest news

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

- [www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy](https://www.instagram.com/SpaldingAcademy)
- [www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/SpaldingAcademy)
- [www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT](https://www.twitter.com/SpaldingSLAT)