



SPALDING
ACADEMY

Head of School

Friday 2nd February 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Where has this term gone? I cannot believe we only have one week left of Term 3! It has been incredibly busy this week at school.

This week, we took the first of our two trips to the SLAT Sixth Form at Bourne Academy, with our Year 11 students. The aim of the visit is to help our students to familiarise themselves with the short bus journey along with the school layout and Sixth Form facilities. Students were able to drop in to lessons, based on the subjects they have applied to study, which will introduce them to the teaching staff and give an idea of the lesson content ahead of joining Year 12 in September 2024. The students that visited this week came back with excitement about their journey with the Trust and beyond GCSEs. The final group will visit Bourne Academy after half term.



This week, our Year 10 students have benefited from 'Gambling Harm Prevention Workshops' as part of our PSHE programme, where we deliver age appropriate information to different year groups. To enable students to engage and ask questions, the sessions have been delivered in small class groups instead of an assembly. These thought-provoking workshops have been delivered by Education & Training Leads from Big Deal who regularly work with schools to help educate young people about the harms of gambling. Whilst many of us might like the occasional flutter, such as the National Lottery or on the Grand National – gambling can be addictive and lead to more serious problems if people find themselves in debt or unable to pay back their losses. Our students learnt about the different types of gambling, what makes it appealing and how the gambling industry can appeal to young people. Although it is illegal to gamble until you are 18, it is concerning that 12% of 11-16 year olds already follow gambling firms on social media. Students learnt how gambling can affect their mental health and the impact it can have on others such as parents, family, friends or work colleagues. It is not just the person gambling that is affected as a survey in 2022 found that 28% of young people had seen family members they live with gamble, where 7% said it had resulted in arguments or tension at home. Further information, advice and support is available from www.bigdeal.org.uk



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

On Thursday, we ran our popular DEAR Time sessions for Year 7 and 8, which stands for 'Drop Everything And Read'. This is where the whole class take turns to read a text and they then discuss what they have read to highlight key vocabulary and share their thoughts on the issues raised in the material. All classes focus on a different subject area so if they normally have an art, history or maths lesson, their reading text will be relevant to art, history, or maths. At Spalding Academy, we value reading as an enriching activity, which can make a profound difference to our students' lives. As well as this, we appreciate that regular reading is linked to a developing vocabulary and improved skills in writing and that both of these skills are vital to success in all curriculum areas and life beyond school.

Today, we had the Department of Education (DfE) visit Spalding Academy. The Regional Schools Commissioners had a tour around our lessons and facilities and met some students too. The Commissioners were both so impressed with our students' in lessons and their positive attitudes to learning. The rapid journey this school has been in is incredible and it was great to hear this feedback from the Department of Education.

If you would like to work for our Trust (or know someone who may interested), there are two SLAT Recruitment Roadshows next week at Giles Academy (Tuesday 6th February from 5pm to 6.30pm) and Spalding Academy (Thursday 8th February from 5pm to 6.30pm). Due to the Trust expanding in student numbers, facilities and curriculum, there are plenty of opportunities to join us. You can attend the roadshows if you want to work in any of the Trust schools and by attending one of these events, it can help you get a head start. To register to attend, please visit: www.slat.org.uk/recruitment-roadshow

Finally, as we head in to our final week of Term 3, I would like to remind parents and carers that we finish at 3.15pm on Friday 9th February 2024 for our one week holiday break.

I hope you have a wonderful and restful weekend.

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



South Lincolnshire Academies Trust

RECRUITMENT ROADSHOWS

99%
of teachers are
proud to be a
member of
our Trust

If you are interested in discovering the opportunities available at **South Lincolnshire Academies Trust**, we would like to meet you at one of our Recruitment Roadshow events.

Due to an increase in student numbers and the rapid growth of our Trust, we will require more teaching and support staff this academic year and in September.

By attending, you will have the chance to make a positive impression and get a head start in working for our highly successful Trust to progress your career.

These events are for those who are interested in working at **ANY** of our Trust schools (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy).

Giles Academy

Church Road, Old Leake, Boston, Lincolnshire PE22 9LD

Tuesday 6th February • 5pm to 6.30pm

Spalding Academy


Neville Avenue, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2EJ

Thursday 8th February • 5pm to 6.30pm

You can drop-in anytime between 5.00pm to 6.30pm for the opportunity to speak to our staff about the many teaching and support job vacancies that will be available. There is free parking on the school site and free refreshments will be served from 5.00pm.

To attend, you must register in advance - please visit: www.slat.org.uk/vacancies



 **South Lincolnshire
Academies Trust**