

Head of School

Friday 7th February 2025

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.

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.

In the evening on Thursday, we held our first ever House Performing Arts Competition, which featured six different drama performances to represent each House. As well as creating and performing an original play, the students had the challenge of incorporating a balloon into their performance. Well done to Blue House who were the overall winners plus Green House who were in second place and Orange House in third place. Thank you to Mr Horner for leading on last night's competition and the Year 10/11 students who directed the performances.



Our Under 14 mixed Gymnastics team travelled to Stamford last Saturday to represent the school by competing in the East Midlands Regional Floor and Vault Competition. This talented and dedicated group of students achieved second place overall. Well done to all of the students.

We have had over 120 Year 11 prefects this academic year. Students wear their prefect tie and badges with pride and support the school community throughout the school day. As our Year 11 students move closer to their examinations, we would like them to focus their attention on those important GCSE and BTECs grades. On Thursday, we held their final prefect breakfast reward. I would like to thank our students for their hard work and dedication over the past year, they have been incredible! I know they will miss their free reward breakfasts too.

Year 11 are now working towards their forthcoming examinations and it has been a positive week for attending lunchtime interventions sessions which we provide every day. We continue to encourage completing GCSEPod revision and using the revision resources we have provided. To encourage further for Year 11 students, we have launched the Loyalty Card which students will get signed every time they attend a revision class. There is plenty of prizes to be won!

In relation to enrichment, I have been impressed with the number of students that are attending sports clubs such as rugby, IT club, library, Art and many other opportunities. A reminder that we encourage all students to take part in the enrichment programme.

To keep students and parents/carers informed about the progress they are making across a Key Stage, reporting plays an essential role in education. Our school aims to provide parents and carers with a reporting system which is informative, frequent and clearly highlights the progress our students are making. Prior to any report being published the information undergoes a rigorous layered quality assurance process to ensure that all reports are accurate and well presented. There are two main types of report; Assessment of Learning and annual written reports.

- Assessment of Learning Data reports (AOL Data) is published three times a year timed to coincide with key events in the academic calendar so that Parents/Carers have the latest information on hand for Parents' Evenings or an accurate summary of grades achieved following Mock exams in Key Stage 4 or 5. The colour contained within these AOL Data reports makes them extremely user friendly, clearly highlighting each student's strengths and weaknesses. As each set of AOL data is added to these reports a picture of progress emerges from comparing grades from each of the 3 data points.
- Written subject reports primarily focus upon specific targets for students to improve upon in each subject. These are published annually in accordance with Department for Education guidelines between December and May (at different times for different year groups) specifically so that staff and students have time in the remainder of the academic year to act upon this advice in subsequent lessons in order to make difference in their studies.

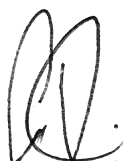
As well as holding our 'Get Into Teaching' event at Spalding Academy on Wednesday 12th March 2025 (see details at the end of this update), we are recruitment additional teachers to start in September 2025 in schools across the Trust. This is a great opportunity to join our Trust as all four schools have had a record number of applicants for Year 7 as well as our growing SLAT Sixth Form. There are currently the following teaching vacancies available across the Trust:

- Head of Religious Education (Bourne)
- Teacher of Business Studies (Bourne)
- Teacher of Geography (Bourne)
- Teacher of Health & Social Care (Bourne & Cowley)
- Teacher of Mathematics (Bourne, Spalding & Giles)
- Teacher of Science (Giles)
- Teacher/Instructor of Humanities (Bourne & Spalding)
- Teacher/Instructor of Religious Education (Bourne & Spalding)

All current job vacancies in the Trust are listed on the SLAT website: www.slat.org.uk/vacancies and the closing date for these teaching vacancies is 8am on Tuesday 25th February 2025. Please share this with anyone you know who is interested in working for our schools.

I hope you have a wonderful and restful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Mr Glenn Martin

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



TRAIN TO TEACH WITH
LINCOLNSHIRE ITT



Get Into Teaching

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 12th March 2025 • 5.30pm to 7.00pm

South Lincolnshire Academies Trust (SLAT) are now one of the **Lead Partners for Lincolnshire ITT** and can talk to you about starting your teaching journey with us. At this 'Get Into Teaching' event, which will be held at Spalding Academy, you will discover how you can gain a recognised teaching qualification with our one-year school centred Initial Teacher Training.

If any of the following applies to you, you will benefit from attending:

- Recently gained a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying a Level 6 undergraduate degree (e.g. BA, BSc, BEd, BEng) in any subject
- Currently studying A-levels or Level 3 BTECs and wanting to get into teaching
- Wanting to change career and become a teacher
- Working in a non-teaching role within a school or college environment and wanting to get into teaching

You could train either at the schools in our highly successful Trust (Bourne Academy, Spalding Academy, Giles Academy and Cowley Academy) or at a variety of other secondary schools in the Lincolnshire, Rutland and Peterborough areas.

This event starts at 5.30pm where there will be a presentation then the opportunity to speak to staff informally. You will learn about the different training pathways, entry requirements and details about student finances. We will cover school placements, the course content, support available plus timescales. We can also provide help so you can successfully apply.

To attend, please visit www.slat.org.uk/vacancies to register in advance.



TRAIN TO TEACH WITH
LINCOLNSHIRE ITT



South Lincolnshire
Academies Trust

Spalding Academy, Neville Avenue, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2EJ
www.slat.org.uk/vacancies