

# Head of School

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

The final week of term has flown by and in reflection the term has also flown by!

Firstly, I feel that I must thank all of the parents and carers who continue to support their children attending school every day and on time, particularly during a challenging year of a national pandemic. Despite Covid absences, which have been unavoidable, Giles Academy attendance is in line with the national figure, which is fantastic!

Throughout this week we have embraced the National Apprenticeship Week across the school. During tutor group periods, students have been able to engage in materials and discuss important topics which support the national scheme. Students have also been well support by our Careers Lead - Miss Myers and the SLAT Trust Careers Lead - Mrs Barber. If you would like any further support regarding your child's next educational steps please contact Miss Myers via the email address:

#### • <u>Imyers@gilesacademy.co.uk</u>

Our Year 9 students this week have been investigating and researching their Key Stage 4 Option Choices. We hope all parents have had an opportunity to read the wealth of information and watch the subject videos available on the school website (see link below) to support their child in making good future choices. All parents will have now received the Options form via ParentMail. A polite reminder that the deadline to complete the form is Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022.

#### www.gilesacademy.co.uk/year-9-options

It was such a privilege to meet with the newly appointed Year 10 temporary Prefects, and to award their prefect badges and inform them of their new prefect responsibilities. Prefects are extremely important to the good order of the school and held in very high regard. They are now all fully equipped with the necessary information ready to make an excellent start after the half term break. We wish them all the very best as they take up their new role.

Our Year 11 Business and IT BTEC students have experienced their first real examinations this week. All students were impeccable in their mature approach to revision, 'crammer' sessions and examination conduct. We are confident that the hard work and positive work ethic witnessed during the lead up and into this examination period will bring the great reward that they all deserve.



I am personally very much looking forward to students experiencing a wider range of extra-curricular activities running on return to school including sports fixtures and dance clubs planned following the reduction due to the pandemic. We will notify all students and parents of the range of activities running after the half term break.

Finally, I would like to remind you that our safeguarding tool the 'worried app' is still live throughout the half term break if a student or parent requires any advice, support or guidance and you will be provided with a response or directed to information to support your enquiry. Please email:

worried@gilesacademy.co.uk

I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support of our school and wish all of our fantastic students a safe and happy half term break.

Kindest regards,

**Miss Katie Belcher** 

Head of School, Giles Academy

## Message from the Executive Headteacher

As we approach the half term break, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this term. We have again seen many changes to the Covid measures and expectations for schools, and all of our community have supported these changes with great maturity and a calm approach.

This term has been highly successful, our schools have continued to develop at a fast pace, with a wealth of activities and events shared on the school websites and social media platforms. It is all these things that make us feel so proud of all our schools.

I am particularly pleased this term that the newly appointed Heads of School at Giles Academy – Miss Katie Belcher and at Bourne Academy – Mr Matt Sammy, are already having a positive impact and we look forward to Mrs Jemma Curson, Head of School at Spalding Academy joining us in April. She will be joining us for a day, and for some of our meetings and activities over the next term, so will start to meet some staff and students. This new leadership structure has enabled us to have the capacity to start to offer interim support to our fourth school, The Thomas Cowley High School, with a view to transferring this school into our Trust from September 2022.

Despite the challenges that the Covid pandemic has seen us needing to manage, the atmosphere in all the Trust schools is extremely positive and I would like to share that we are extremely proud of all our young people, who have shown such resilience and maintain focus on their learning. I have observed many outstanding lessons as I tour around all schools and we have deployed many intervention strategies to support closing any gaps in learning, due to the impact of the pandemic.

Well done to all our students and staff for what has been a great term!

Kindest regards,

**Mrs Lucy Conley** 

Executive Headteacher, SLATrust

## Job vacancies

We have the following job opportunities at the schools within our Trust. For details about all jobs visit <a href="https://www.slat.org.uk/vacancies">www.slat.org.uk/vacancies</a>. If you know someone who may be interested in working for us, please share this with them.

Job vacancy	Location(s)	Closing date to apply
Examination Invigilators	Giles Academy	Monday 21 February
Senior Science Laboratory Technician	Giles Academy	Monday 21 February
Pastoral Year Leaders	Bourne / Spalding / Giles	Tuesday 22 February
Teaching Assistants	Bourne / Spalding / Giles	Tuesday 22 February

## For the latest news

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

- www.instagram.com/GilesAcademySLAT
- www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy
- www.twitter.com/GilesSLAT

There have been some notable highlights this week which you may have seen on our website and social media pages. You can access the links below for the various news stories:

- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/year-9-choose-their-ks4-options
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/claim-a-free-book-with-a-1-book-token
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/become-a-junior-librarian
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/inspiring-future-careers-during-naw