

Head of School

Friday 8th December 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

As we approach the end of term, it has been an action-packed week of activity.

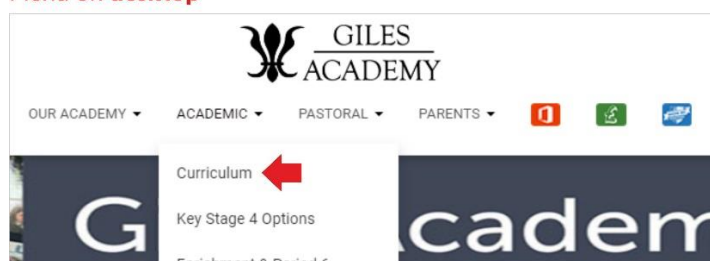
This week, Year 11 students have been completing their PPE 2 examinations. This is an opportunity for the students to develop their revision and examination techniques within exam conditions. Students have been impeccable in their attitude to exams and interventions that have supported them across the week.

I would like to thank you for our recent parent survey. The responses were overwhelmingly positive about our school. I appreciate the time it took for you to complete the survey and we have analysed this with our students and staff feedback too. I have included some headline quotes which we are really proud of:

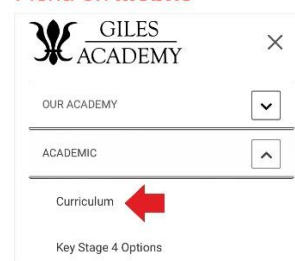
- **100%** of parents state their child feels safe at the school
- **100%** of parents state that they feel that their child is doing well at school
- **100%** of staff are proud to be a member of the school

We will always address any areas which have been raised in this feedback. From the feedback some parents highlighted that they wanted some more details on our curriculum intent. We have detailed curriculum intent documents which are on our website - www.gilesacademy.co.uk/curriculum and can be found under the 'Academic' menu tab (as shown below) and encourage parents to look. Here you will find our overall curriculum aims and delivery, plus you will also find each individual subject content, broken down into year groups and topics.

Menu on **desktop**



Menu on **mobile**



The Giles Academy curriculum is under constant review and we make changes to what students learn across school and within subjects based on their feedback, progress and aspirations. We are immensely proud of the outcomes our students achieve through our curriculum, including their exceptional GCSE results in the core, EBacc subjects, in the technical and vocational areas.



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

On Wednesday this week there was an unprecedented demand for the Christmas Dinner! It was brilliant to see so many students enjoying their Christmas Dinner, pulling their cracker with friends and wearing their paper hats, it was so busy in our school canteen that we sold out completely! I just wanted to take the time to reassure parents that there will be other items of hot and cold food available for students to have, if in the very few cases, that we are not able to offer the dinner due to selling out - it is a first come, first served basis. The final Christmas Dinner will be served next Wednesday.



On Thursday we were visited by Mr Martin Smith – Assistant Director of Children’s Education. Mr Smith commended the Trust and the dedication and commitment of the staff to improve outcomes for the students. He also commented that the students look really happy around the school and the educational experience is extremely purposeful and driven. It is a great privilege to show visitors around the school, I am very proud of all of the students at the school.

We also held our Year 9 Parents’ Evening online on Thursday evening. Our attendance to this session was incredible. It was lovely to hear so many positive progress conversations happening with our teachers, students and parents/carers. I hope the evening was very informative and gave you an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have in order to support your child further on their educational journey.

This week during House assemblies we have been presenting awards to students who have achieved Bronze, Silver or Gold as part of the ASPIRE Passport. Well done to all of the students who have been recognised and a special mention goes to Logan Burrell (pictured opposite) who is the first student across the Trust to complete the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. A reminder that the challenges are designed for students to complete at school and at home. This is the first term through our new initiative and we are so proud of all the students. We look forward to even more celebrations in Term 3 and 4.

Finally, for students who completed GCSE and BTEC Level 2 examinations in 2023, these certificates are now ready for collection in person from the school. The last date they can be collected is Monday 15th January 2024. If someone is collecting on behalf of the student, we will need permission from the student. It is important that students keep the physical copies of certificates as they may need these for



job, college or university applications as proof of achievement. If they do not keep, they may have to pay an administration charge to obtain copies from each examination board in the future. Please note that students Art & Design artwork can also be collected from the school. To collect artwork, liaise with the school 'in advance' so this can be made ready for collection.

Have a great weekend.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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