

Head of School

Friday 31st January 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We are halfway through Term 3 already and have had another successful week at Giles Academy.

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended the Year 11 online Parents' Evening last night. This was well attended and was a valuable, last opportunity, for an informative appointment prior to your child sitting their formal examinations. Year 11 students received their PPE results last week and following this, we have now considered every individual performance to provide further support in a specific subject area until the examination period. Therefore, students will have been notified of a change of tutor as registration sessions have now evolved into subject interventions. This is a fantastic way of delivering additional bespoke support by subject specialists leading up until their final examinations. To provide support for our students, Years 9, 10 and 11 have access to GCSEPod, which is an effective revision tool that can be used on a digital platform to support revision.

This week I would like to take the opportunity to promote numeracy across the curriculum. Numeracy is not just about the teaching and learning that takes place in a student's Maths lesson but is also about having the transferable skills to put in to practice in other areas of the curriculum. As I walk around the school on a daily basis I often see students using a variety of mathematical skills in many of their lessons. This includes calculating and analysing data in science experiments; reading maps, using scales and calculating distances in Geography; interpreting population trends in History; using geometry, symmetry and proportions in Art & Design or calculating fitness rates in PE. It is important that students develop their numeracy skills throughout secondary school to equip them for life after school and their future careers. We are committed to delivering a curriculum which integrates numeracy and supports students to apply their numeracy skills. Parents and carers can help support us with this by ensuring students have the basic equipment for all their lessons including a scientific calculator. If anyone needs any advise about a suitable calculator then your child's Maths teacher will be able to discuss this with your child.

We are continuing to see lots of students completing their Aspire passport and collecting their badges. A reminder that some of the Aspire challenges can be completed at home, such as make and cook a family meal or complete one task to help out at home for seven days. This week in assemblies we have also been encouraging students to Go for Silver! For those students who have achieved a Bronze Aspire badge in the Autumn term, now is the time to aim to achieve the Silver Award! Also, for those students who have not quite met all challenges for the Bronze award - there is still time! It would be absolutely fantastic to see all students in the year wearing either a Bronze, Silver or Gold badge by the end of this academic year!



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

I would like to remind all parents and carers of our Trust 'Working Together: Communication Policy for Parents & Carers', which is on our Trust website - www.slat.org.uk/policies. The purpose of this policy is as a reminder to parents/carers and visitors to our School of their expected conduct, in order that we can continue to flourish, make progress and achieve in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. We are fortunate to work with parents/carers that are supportive and polite, with our parents/carers recognising that educating children is a process that is strengthened by a positive partnership between parents, staff and the school community. However, it is also important that any contact between parents/carers and the School must be appropriate, proportionate and respectful, in terms of the professional knowledge, experience and skill of the staff and of the entitlement of staff to an appropriate work/life balance.

Finally, please be reminded that we have some fantastic visiting music teachers in school offering 1:1 piano, guitar, drums and singing lessons. If you would like your child to be involved in these specialist lessons, which are proven to not only extend musical skills but also, self-confidence, self-esteem, discipline and social skills, please contact dcocks@gilesacademy.co.uk for more information.



I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Belcher'.

Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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



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.



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South Lincolnshire
Academies Trust

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