

# Head of School

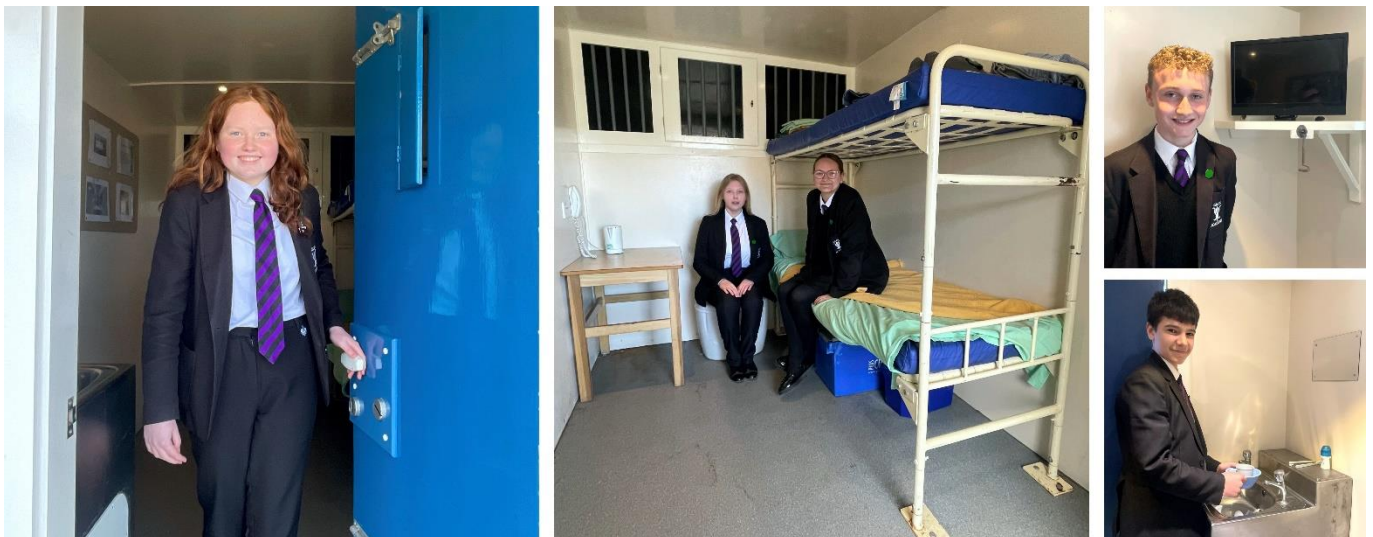
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Its been another busy week at Giles Academy, starting with Year 11 students who received an 'Keeping Safe' safeguarding session this week regarding Artificial Intelligence and Deep Fakes. In an ever-changing technological world, it is so important to raise important issues to support our young people to make good choices enabling them to keep safe.

On Tuesday, our Year 9 have had 'Prison Me No Way' deliver a full day of engaging workshops and activities. Our Year 9 students had a valuable insight into what it would be like to go to prison, the penalties and consequences that would affect them for the rest of their life and most importantly, how to not make the wrong choices focusing on crime prevention. They provided a full day of engaging workshops and activities, which are led by retired Prison Officers, Youth Engagement Officers, ex-offenders and volunteers from charities and other organisations. All of these people were able to pass on their first-hand experiences and real-life knowledge so students know exactly what it is like. This forms part of our Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) programme which is an integral part of our curriculum offer at Giles Academy.



The effort from all students to attend school every day must be highlighted this week, our whole school attendance continues to increase above the national average. Particularly well done to Year 9 students and parents who have shown significant improvement in this area. This week, over 70 students were awarded with 100% attendance in recognition of attendance to school last term. Miss Perry who is the Year 9 Pastoral Lead, said she was absolutely delighted to be able to reward so many students and it is fantastic this is the largest amount we have rewarded this academic year!

Congratulations to our top point scorers for all year groups this week. Our weekly reward scheme based on positive point scores continues to recognise individual student success. Our Year 8 recipients for last week are shown in the photo opposite. Well done to Sophia, Ana, Lademi and Kaden!

All tutor groups are being given a 'Friday Focus' with a particular challenge from their Aspire Passport, this is to support the completion of their Bronze, Silver or Gold Aspire Award. Over the next couple

of weeks, Key Stage 3 students are researching careers with nominated students from each House presenting ideas in their next House assembly. Year 10 students are working on creating revision materials with the best materials produced being displayed on their form tutor noticeboard. Please continue to support your child to complete their Aspire Passport challenges at home to earn their badge and invite into the end of term film reward!



The Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme at Giles Academy is designed to support students' transition to the next stage of their careers. The school offers impartial advice through various activities including talks, visits, information evenings and individual interviews. The Careers team collaborate closely with local employers to provide an annual Careers Fair and a variety of enterprise challenges ensuring students develop essential employability skills. We have embedded weekly 'Job of the Week' presentations to help students in all Year groups consider different careers. Students in Year 11 and at the SLAT Sixth Form are provided with additional support to explore career paths, further education and employment opportunities. There are work experience opportunities for SLAT Sixth Form students and they are also successfully guided towards diverse destinations including university placements (for approximately two thirds of Year 13 students each year), apprenticeships and direct entry into employment. This tailored approach ensures that each student receives personalised advice, aligning their aspirations with suitable Post-16 and Post-18 options. For further information, please see the Careers section on the school website ([www.gilesacademy.co.uk/careers](http://www.gilesacademy.co.uk/careers)) or contact Mrs Barber, Associate Director for Post 16 & Careers by emailing [BarberL@bourneacademy.org](mailto:BarberL@bourneacademy.org) if you have any queries.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all Year 11 parents and carers about our Easter Revision Sessions being held across the two-week holiday period. These are valuable sessions to prepare for the examination period and to practice revision techniques with specialist subject teachers. All students have received their Revision Sessions timetable and information this week to sign up to. In addition to this, we are holding our Year 11 Exam Success Evening on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 - this will be a fantastic evening for parents, carers and students to support their child in the final stages of preparation for their exams.

A reminder for Year 8 parents/carers, that we are holding our Year 8 Parents Evening next Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025. This is an important annual event for all parents to have the opportunity to meet with their child's teachers. The online appointments will be 5 minutes long and parents will be meeting with their child's subject tutors. Bookings are to be made using ParentMail and timeslots are available on a first come, first served basis.

We will be having a special whole school non-uniform day next Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 to raise funds for Comic Relief / Red Nose Day. Students will be allowed to wear non-uniform **incorporating red items of clothing** in support of Comic Relief. However, we do ask for students to observe the list of dress restrictions as outlined in the letter sent to all parents this week. If students do not wish to take part they will need to wear full school uniform as per normal.

Finally, we have some outstanding news to report - our Under 13 Netball Team are now the **2025 South Lincolnshire Schools U13 District Champions!** This is an incredible achievement, which stems from the hard work, commitment and perseverance of the team and coaches. Mrs Cooper, Teacher of PE reported *"the team showed phenomenal success throughout the event winning every match by scoring 31 goals across six games and having only 3 goals scored against us!"* This is the first time a Giles Academy Netball Team has won this level of competition at District level. A huge congratulations to Hollie Cranfield, Ivy Edgeworth, Florence Mackay, Poppy Roberts, Darci Smith, Imogen Smith and Winter Zanelli and everyone involved!

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Kindest regards,



**Miss Katie Belcher**  
Head of School, Giles Academy



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- [www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy](https://www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy)
- [www.x.com/GilesSLAT](https://www.x.com/GilesSLAT)