

Head of School

Friday 21st January 2022

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Another great week for Bourne Academy!

In my newsletter last week, I referred to Mr Martin's letter outlining the changes to COVID protocols. Since this communication, you will be aware that the government has eased the restrictions of face coverings in schools. Additionally, from the 27th January 2022, face coverings will no longer be mandatory anywhere in the school building. Until then, students are still required to wear face masks in communal areas. The government's easing of restrictions does indicate that schools will have more freedom to continue providing extra-curricular provision, including trips and visits. For all students, sadly they have missed out on so many wider opportunities throughout the past two years and I am extremely keen for trips and wider extra-curricular activities to resume as soon as possible and to continue in a safe manner for both our staff and students.

As a new school leader to the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust, it is important that I saw first-hand the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust vision for education across the Trust. I didn't need to visit Spalding Academy, having been part of the Ofsted team that inspected this school in 2019. However, this week, I did take the opportunity on Wednesday to visit Giles Academy with Mrs Conley. We spent the morning visiting lessons and talking to students both in and out of lessons. Staff and students spoke highly of the SLAT leadership and how the school has transformed so rapidly in a short space of time. It was interesting to note how similar the school environment is to that of the high standards set at Bourne Academy.

As you will know, from Mrs Conley's update on Thursday, this week, the Trust had confirmation from the Department of Education that The Thomas Cowley High School will be the fourth school to join SLAT, from September 2022. This is an exciting time for SLAT as it will be another opportunity to support another local non-selective secondary school with developing and improving teaching and learning. Please be fully reassured that my role as Head of School will provide the capacity to Mrs Conley and the Executive Deputy Headteachers to provide support to Thomas Cowley without compromising the quality of education at Bourne Academy.

I am proud of our students at Bourne Academy and students adhere to our high expectations in all aspects of school life. However, I have asked staff to provide a timely manner to students regarding uniform standards, notably, coats in corridors, piercings and lengths of skirts. If there are any breaches to uniform standards, your child will be asked to rectify the issue to ensure we have a consistent approach across the



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school. As ever, your support is greatly appreciated by reinforcing appropriate standards to uniform and behaviour.

Yesterday afternoon, Year 11 students received their results from the recent PPE Mock examinations that took place before Christmas. The data indicates that the vast majority of Year 11 students are making strong progress which is encouraging to see. I would like to take the opportunity to share with you all that in the Year 11 assessment of learning (AOL) data, we are forecasting the end of KS4 progress to be +0.71 which is <u>WELL ABOVE</u> the national average. This projective data will place Bourne Academy as one of the top 20% of schools in the country. I am sure you will be pleased to see your child's results; however, if you do have any queries, I would encourage you to speak to the relevant subject teacher at next week's upcoming Year 11 parents evening.

Well done to all our teachers and to the Year 11 students for all their hard work, particularly after experiencing such disruption to learning over the past two years due to the impact of COVID pandemic. I have met with the KS4 team and we will be introducing a high level of intervention strategies, as we continue to support our students to bridge any gaps on their learning.

Finally, we were fortunate to have visitors from 'Prison Me No Way' to speak with our Year 9 students. Prison Me No Way is a nationally registered charity whose aim is to raise awareness amongst young people about the causes, consequences, penalties and impacts of crime. Links for this story and many others can be found below.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our highly successful school.

Kindest regards,

Mr Matt Sammy

Head of School, Bourne Academy

Upcoming key dates

Thursday 27 th January 2022	Year 11 Parents Evening	Year 11
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For the latest news

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

- www.instagram.com/BourneAcademy
- www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs
- www.twitter.com/BourneSLAT

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.bourneacademy.org/prison-me-no-way-2022
- www.bourneacademy.org/country-cross-country-trials-results
- www.bourneacademy.org/the-army-go-back-to-school
- www.bourneacademy.org/mental-health-poetry-competition-2