



BOURNE  
ACADEMY

# Head of School

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

As you may be aware, in addition to my substantive role as Head of School at Bourne Academy, I also work as a school inspector and take part in around five inspections over the course of each academic year. On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, I had the opportunity to inspect a secondary school where I found myself reflecting on the importance of strong standards and high expectations. Unfortunately, the sobering experience of this particular inspection confirmed the need for a consistent application to basic elements such as uniform and behavioural expectations, such as we have at Bourne Academy and as I have witnessed in all three Trust schools. I have mentioned this before, but I am incredibly proud of our high standards and expectations we have of our students; moreover, I firmly believe this is what makes Bourne Academy a special place to be where students can learn in a positive environment. As a school, we will continue to remind our students of the high expectations we have to ensure Bourne Academy remains a school which provides a calm and purposeful environment to all our students. I was certainly very happy to be back at Bourne Academy for the remainder of the week!

In my previous newsletters throughout this term, you will have noticed a significant emphasis and promotion of students having the opportunity to develop their literacy skills. We have recently shared news stories regarding poetry competitions, top readers in the 'accelerated reader' programme and the 'Rapid Reader' programme to name just a few. I am therefore pleased to see the momentum of our literacy focus sustained with the launch of the Book Fair. The Book Fair commenced yesterday and is proving a huge success already which is great to see! Students in all years are welcome to view and purchase a wide range of books including some top titles. I am aware that students have chosen their book 'wish lists' which is so pleasing to see. I would encourage you to see the news on our website and social media, which provides more information about the Book Fair and how to make a purchase.

Next week is a significant week for our Year 9 students as this brings the launch of our Key Stage 4 Options Programme. From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, students will be given relevant details pertaining to the Key Stage 4 options process. Parents will be sent an email via ParentMail which will contain information and guidance for you and your child. This will be supplemented by a series of short videos from our different curriculum areas. I am pleased to inform you that the curriculum videos and general Options information will be available on our website next week.

It is also an important time for all our students as 'National Apprenticeship Week' is celebrated next week. In preparation for next week, our Year 12 students had the opportunity to listen to an external speaker



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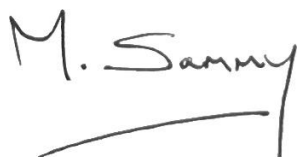
from 'Work Pays ASK Apprenticeships'. Many of our Sixth Form students will have the desire to continue their studies at university; however, last year, 22% of students left our Sixth Form to pursue their studies in relevant apprenticeships. The external speaker provided our students with further insight about the benefits of an apprenticeship which will be explored further next week.

Since joining Bourne Academy, I have been amazed at the emphasis of celebration and reward. Students are extremely appreciative of our extensive reward system that is systemic across the school. I have distributed canteen vouchers to a select few of students who have gone above and beyond in different aspects of school life. Similarly, this week, Mr Butterworth and Miss Lynas introduced the Year 11 loyalty card system in this week's assembly. The loyalty card will enable students to select a reward of their choice following the attendance of a set number of intervention sessions. The rewards are varied and somewhat exciting – I can imagine the reward of Miss Lynas providing a hot chocolate to a student within a lesson will be a top favourite!

I understand the value of celebration and reward; therefore, as a school, we will continue to celebrate the successes of students in all year groups in a timely and appropriate manner to provide the recognition our fabulous students deserve.

Have a great weekend!

Kindest regards,



**Mr Matt Sammy**

Head of School, Bourne Academy

## Upcoming key dates

Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	<b>National Apprenticeships Week</b>	All years
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	<b>Key Stage 4 Options Form sent via ParentMail</b>	Year 9

## For the latest news

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

- [www.instagram.com/BourneAcademy](http://www.instagram.com/BourneAcademy)
- [www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs](http://www.facebook.com/BourneAcademyLincs)
- [www.twitter.com/BourneSLAT](http://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/library-launches-annual-book-fair](http://www.bourneacademy.org/library-launches-annual-book-fair)
- [www.bourneacademy.org/after-school-sports-coaching](http://www.bourneacademy.org/after-school-sports-coaching)
- [www.bourneacademy.org/year-7-have-embraced-dear-time](http://www.bourneacademy.org/year-7-have-embraced-dear-time)
- [www.bourneacademy.org/sixth-form-discover-apprenticeships](http://www.bourneacademy.org/sixth-form-discover-apprenticeships)
- [www.bourneacademy.org/iceland-trip-for-geography-students](http://www.bourneacademy.org/iceland-trip-for-geography-students)
- [www.bourneacademy.org/poetry-winners-are-empowered](http://www.bourneacademy.org/poetry-winners-are-empowered)