

Details of John Spendluffe Technology College

We are a popular rural and mixed 11-16 Technology College, becoming a Converter Academy in August 2011. There are around 600 students on roll and as a result of parental choice being exercised, we are often over-subscribed.

The school is situated in Alford, a small market town at the foot of the Lincolnshire Wolds about 7 miles from the coast and approximately 35 miles from Lincoln. It draws young people from over 15 primary schools mostly from a rural location. Students flourish in an atmosphere which is purposeful but also warm and friendly.

The school, originally built in the 1930's, has enjoyed extensive remodelling; almost £2 million has been invested in the last couple of years to ensure our students have the excellent facilities they deserve. This has included 2 new teaching blocks, redeveloped English and Humanities centres and an upgrade in Science facilities, along with an updated and extended canteen. We have also installed a new floodlit Astro-Turf and, thanks to a grant from Sport England, updated our Sports Hall. This has added to our existing facilities which include a heated outdoor swimming pool, a Technology wing and a purpose built Performing Arts Centre.

The school is a supportive place to work where discipline is firm but fair and where we receive outstanding support from parents. We have focussed efforts on academic rigour, establishing high expectations of students and providing an extensive range of additional activities that have had a significant effect in raising attainment in national tests and at GCSE level over the past few years. Our newly remodelled Pastoral system will add to this approach enabling students to become resilient, responsible and independent. We recognise that these are skills for life beyond our school gates as well as characteristics that will enable our students to thrive.

Academic rigour and the need for all students to succeed academically so that they can meet their targets is an objective for both staff and students at JSTC. As a school we have a determined and clear focus on ensuring that we meet the needs of our students to enable them to progress to the next level of their education beyond JSTC. The strong commitment of our staff is testament to the hard work that goes on every day to meet the highest of challenging targets. The high standards of behaviour that we have secured complements the vision of high quality teaching and learning so that all students, at all levels can achieve their best. But education must also be about shaping our students to become the best that they can be in the world beyond school.



With an emphasis on extra-curricular activities and the development of resilience, confidence, independence and aspiration to succeed in all of our students we aim to ensure the young people we serve are able fulfil their goals. We are determined to meet the individual needs of all learners in our community - staff as well as students - to create a respectful climate and culture for progress.

The school has a proactive approach to curriculum innovation, development and review. In Year 7 and Year 8 students are involved in the Opening Minds programme to develop their learning skills and to raise aspiration and achievement. Our policy and implementation for More Able and Talented students raises and celebrates the high expectations we hold for our students here. We have a commitment to developing our students' talents in all areas.

At Key Stage 4 a wide range of GCSE, BTEC and other vocational courses are offered. We introduce cultural diversity through school visitors and displays, trips and visits and extra-curricular activity.

We have addressed workforce remodelling issues so that teachers are focussed on leading learning and healthy numbers of learning support assistants and administrative support allows creative and innovative approaches to learning from each teaching and learning team.

As one parent wrote: "My child is making good academic progress but just as importantly he has grown in self-confidence and self-belief. I believe the school genuinely cares about individuals, valuing all their talents and achievements."

Our success has been recognised by national awards including International Schools. In August 2011 we converted to academy status. As the school was already successful our ethos and values did not change. We are however an outward facing single academy trust and link to two teaching school alliances and a number of individual schools both locally and further afield. We share good practice and creative ideas to develop our teaching, learning and assessment styles to continue to evolve the offer we make to our students. As a stand alone academy we can ensure that we are able to work only for the benefit of our students.

We welcome and value your interest in us and hope that after reading the accompanying job description/specification you are interested in furthering an application.

