

SJSF Open Evening ***Choice, Opportunity Success***

WELCOME

Good evening to all of you this evening and welcome to Kesteven & Sleaford High School. My name is Josephine Smith and as Head of School I am delighted to open this year's Sleaford Joint Sixth Form Open Evening. In the next 25 minutes I hope to give you a flavour of what studying as part of the SJSF is all about with a little help from Head Girl, Phoebe Dales, and Assistant Head Boy, Harpreet Atwal.

Many of you will already know the schools and have picked up a feel for them. For those that have not, tonight is an opportunity to talk to staff and students...find out about A level, BTec and CTec study and ask questions. We want you to leave feeling well informed and more sure about what it is you want to do after GCSEs. We hope we are able to help you find out about the different courses, their entry requirements and the next steps you need to take if you would like to study with us.

SJSF/MAT

We hope very much that you will be able to fit in time to visit two or three schools this evening. If you choose to study in the SJSF you will have access to over 50 level 3 courses across 3 sites. Across the two schools in the RCT (that is here at the High School and at Carre's) those are mostly A level courses: most students will study 3 subjects over 2 years and access 5 hours of teaching time in each subject per week. The Extended Project qualification worth UCAS points, and Dof E programmes are available and encouraged in addition.

You can of course mix and match subjects across the 3 sites and the beauty of being part of such a wide offer is that you stand the best chance of creating a bespoke programme of study that will suit you perfectly.

So what is the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form about?

Firstly it's about **Choice**

- Academic
- Vocational
- Flexibility (e.g. subjects repeated in option blocks to give you best chance of studying your chosen combination; or different History syllabuses)
- Majority of combinations can be accommodated (e.g. 3 MFL, drama, computing, range of Art, Science, Sports qualifications ...all delivered by specialists)

And then it's about

- **Opportunity**

Phoebe and Harpreet will talk to you about some of the opportunities they have grabbed with both hands here in the last 14 months but all three schools are absolutely committed to making sure that sixth form is a time of personal growth, and good fun with lots of chances to discover new strengths and talents!

And of course the SJSF is about

- **Success**

And that means **success FOR ALL**.

It's a real privilege to help young people to achieve their aspirations – and we endeavour to help students achieve in whatever forum.....day in day out we help them achieve the very best grades of course , but just as importantly we aim to help all our young people find personal satisfaction and pride in what they do. We are always looking for ways to help SJSF students love learning whether that's in the examination hall, on the sports field or on stage, at work experience placements or taking part in the various leadership roles they can sign up for.

Grades matter; people matter more. We aim to unlock human potential and prepare students here for life.

- We are expected to deliver exam success and do to ALL of our students
- Excellent retention rates.
- 90% of last year's Y13 have gone onto Universities, including students taking up places to read Vet med, Music, English, and Sciences at Oxford and Cambridge University
- Over 40% have gone to the Russell Group Universities and those highlighted by the Sutton Trust as preparing students the best for their future lives.
- In fact our academic success places us high in both county and national rankings. The Telegraph placed us in the top 200 schools nationally at A level last year.

Some of you may be sitting here excited about the next challenge beyond GCSEs and rigour of A levels whilst other may be nervous about meeting the criteria for A level study. The beauty of the range of courses across the SJSF means there is something available here for everyone and despite our entry requirements for A Level study being as attainable, sometimes more so, than other local school sixth forms, students average grade achieved here at the High School last year was B. High enough for the majority of well-respected University courses.

- Last year we helped students prepare for Apprenticeships
- Whilst our close local links with the Armed Forces – placed students perfectly for careers in any of the Services.

- Some of our students chose to enter the world of Employment. Whilst some took GAP years – travelling around the world before applying to University for next Autumn.
- International Sportsmen and women in the Trust looking at scholarships to study in the US next year.
- Several outstanding sports teams and individuals – football, rugby, cricket, netball, golf, archery, Tae Kwon Do, even Mountain Running...no mean feat for a sixth form surrounded by the Fens.

Enrichment programmes

...at all of the three sites are an important part of our provision. In the dining room here tonight as well as finding refreshments you can learn about:

- Duke of Edinburgh Award – Direct entry Silver or continuation in to Gold
- Please also ask at any of the sites about opportunities to travel, play an instrument or a Sport, act, have art work exhibited, be part of debating team, help lead the student councils, mentor other students.....
- A key part of our programme here is participation in the Extended Project
- Music & Arts Award

COLLABORATION

We pride ourselves on working collaboratively and model that for our young people but at the same time we all believe that individually we can make a difference to a student's learning. We aim to teach all our students that

- it is their responsibility to be their personal best
 - Set own goals and assess their own progress
 - Develop own habits-self-discipline, valuing the effort of others and the need to persevere
 - Private Study – some supervised but not all
 - Home study as a reward
- We start getting to know students before they arrive
 - Induction week
 - Transition Materials
 - First days in Sept

PASTORAL CARE

We are a caring and stable environment

- Students encouraged to develop confidence to take risks necessary for learning – have a go and can do attitude. They also have the chance to specify who they would like to be in a tutor group with before they start. We have a joint code of conduct and the same dress code across each of the sites.
- Develop explicit and shared values – Honesty, Integrity
- Develop respect for each other and property (whilst you are here this evening you may like to visit one of the High School's greatest assets. The House....investment in the last few years...university style living)
- Tolerance of perspectives and cultures
- Build upon existing partnership between home and school
- The additional needs department is based here in the library this evening for example, to discuss with you how we can support any additional needs your child might have.

We try to inculcate a culture of **Lifelong learning**

- Learning is central to everything we do
- Challenging, rewarding and fun-for students and staff
Students must develop the attributes to thrive in what is a constantly changing world
 - We establish good working habits and consider the emotional well being of the students
 - A levels and BTecs are not the same as GCSEs
 - Assessments early on
 - Support all around
- Problem-solving skills

Head Girl and Assistant Head Boy Speech

Phoebe Dales and Harpreet Atwal

Both are in Yr 13. Phoebe has been a student here since Year 7 whilst Harpreet is really well placed to tell you about studying A levels at the High School having moved here to study A levels after completing GCSEs at Carre's.

Tradition and Forward Thinking

Carre's is over 400 years old; KSHS over 100 years old. The Joint Sixth Form is over 30 years old. We are proud of history but committed to the future needs of our students. Jobs for the future are not jobs for life – will be jobs that we have not yet heard of, market leading companies that are not yet formed, industries in their infancy. Plans for expansion...

Next Steps

Within the RCT consider where your **base school** will be (one you are officially on roll at: here you will register, get advice and help on University applications, maybe study the majority of your subjects)

Why choose any school?

You will have seen from the slides -

- Ethos and Discipline
- Reputation

Other factors will of course influence you...

- Facilities
- Family links
- Distance from home
- Size of school
- Broad range of courses...

Most of all we hope that tonight enables you to trust us to care for your child and develop them as people.

THIS EVENING

Please do visit as many of the subject areas across the 3 sites as you have time for this evening. The times for the evening are staggered to enable you to do so this with Carre's and St George's open from 6 until 8.30pm whilst the High School is open until 7.30pm. Whilst many of you will know where you are going there are maps in your packs, plenty of staff and students around the corridors and in reception to guide you and some of our senior prefects here in the hall to escort you from this point if you are unfamiliar with the school layout.

Many thanks and I hope you have an informative evening.