

TSLA NEWS



Welcome to our first edition of the TSLA News!

Welcome, everyone! We're incredibly excited to bring you our brand-new newsletter with exciting happenings and information across our community. Prepare for captivating updates, inspiring stories, and important announcements, delivered straight to you every half term in one convenient spot!



A Harvest of Hope

This Harvest season, we're filled with gratitude for the opportunity to help our community. We warmly invite you to share your kindness by donating to our annual food drive for the Scunthorpe Foodbank. Your support truly embodies our academy's value of generosity.



CCF: New Recruits

Our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) is excited to welcome new Year 8 members! Meeting Wednesdays, 3-5pm, our team offers a wide variety of engaging activities and drills. It's a fantastic chance for personal growth, teamwork, and skill development.

A New Chapter Begins: Introducing Headteacher Dan Ellerby

It is with immense pride and excitement that I introduce myself, Dan Ellerby, as the new Headteacher of The St Lawrence Academy. This appointment feels like a natural progression in a journey that began here in 2006, when I first joined the Academy as a teacher. Having served as Deputy Head for the past four years, I am deeply familiar with our students, the intricate workings of the Academy, and the vibrant community we are so proud to be a part of.

What truly makes our school special is its distinct Christian ethos. Our core Academy values of **Generosity**, **Respect**, **Justice**, **Forgiveness**, and **Truth** are not just words; they form an integral part of our students' holistic growth and development, permeating every aspect of Academy life.

Developing our young people both academically and personally is at the heart of everything we do at TSLA. They should leave us not only having fulfilled their personal best in terms of academic results, but also equipped with our core purpose of ensuring that our learners are: Successful Learners who have acquired the essential knowledge and skills required to fulfil their future lives; Confident Well-Rounded Individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives; and Responsible Citizens who make a positive contribution towards society.

We are incredibly proud of our Academy community, which is rich in cultural diversity, and we celebrate different cultures throughout the academic year.



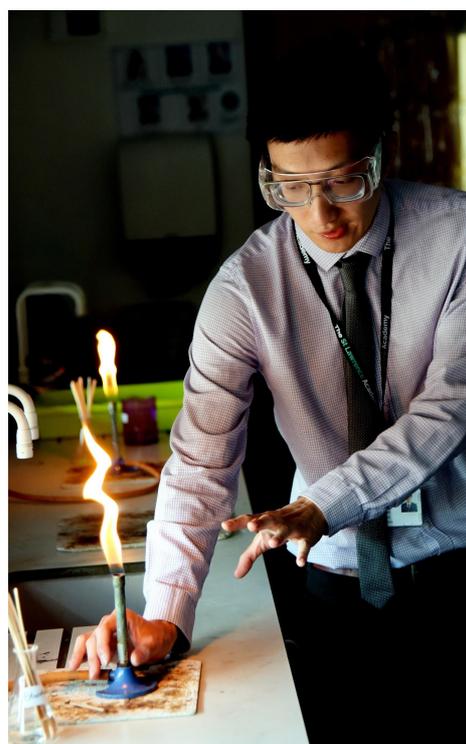
I eagerly look forward to working collaboratively with our dedicated staff, talented students, and supportive parents to ensure The St Lawrence Academy continues to flourish and becomes one of the best educational establishments in this community, a community I am incredibly proud to now be a part of.

Year 6 Open Evening

Our Year 6 Open Evening is poised to be a resounding success on Tuesday, September 23rd! We're thrilled to be welcoming prospective Year 6 students and their families to explore our facilities and experience what makes our school special.

Guests will have a fantastic opportunity to get a real feel for life at The St Lawrence Academy. They will tour our campus, taste food from our diner, meet our dedicated staff, and discover the exciting opportunities that await our future students. We look forward to welcoming everyone who joins us

Curriculum in the spotlight



Science: Ready for Lab-solutely Anything!

Our academy offers a five-year spiral curriculum designed to build knowledge progressively from Year 7 to Year 11. This approach ensures a deep understanding of scientific principles, preparing students for excellent exam results and future studies.

This year, our commitment to scientific excellence was proven by our fantastic Triple Science results, which were above the national average.

With our department fully staffed by a dedicated and passionate team, led by Laura Purbrick, we are committed to inspiring a love for science and equipping every student with the skills and knowledge needed for future success.

Attendance Matters: Every Day in School Builds a Brighter Future



In the bustling halls of our academy, a powerful truth underpins everything we do: every single day in school is a chance to build a brighter future. While a missed day here or there might seem like a small inconvenience, consistent attendance is the single most critical factor in a student's success, both academically and in life.

The truth is, every day in the classroom is a building block. As subjects grow more complex, a missed lesson can create a knowledge gap that becomes increasingly difficult to fill. When a student falls behind,

a simple maths concept can feel like an impossible puzzle, and a key historical event can become a blank space in their understanding. This ripple effect makes it harder for them to keep up with classmates and undermines their confidence.

Consistent attendance is a crucial factor in student success. Research shows that students with a 95% or higher attendance rate are significantly more likely to achieve top grades in exams, especially in subjects like English and maths. This isn't just about grades; it's about building a strong foundation for their future.

Beyond academics, daily school attendance helps students develop essential life skills such as responsibility, a strong work ethic, and routine. It is also where they build friendships and receive vital support from teachers, which is key to social development and preparing for higher education and careers.

At TSLA we are dedicated to helping every student reach their potential. Being present in the classroom is a direct investment in your future. Let's work together to ensure every student is empowered to build the future they deserve.

From Fundraising to Football: Join us at the Community Café!

After our Summer Fayre raised an incredible £690 for Lindsey Lodge Hospice, we're excited to announce the return of The St Lawrence Academy Community Café this autumn. This popular event brings everyone together, and this term, it will host a special Interfaith Football Match on Wednesday, November 14th, where our staff will play against members of the community.

But that's not all! The café will also feature fashion walks, a fiery Chilli Challenge, Henna activities, and other interfaith stalls. It's a great chance to connect with your neighbours, enjoy delicious food, and celebrate our diverse community. We can't wait to see you there! Come join us and be a part of the fun!



TSLA on the TV

Exceptional GCSE results for Jessica C, Ruby P, and Costi C were showcased on BBC Look North on results day, a fantastic moment for our featured students!



Your Future, Certified: GCSE Certificates Collected

On Tuesday, November 25th, we will warmly welcome all Year 11 students back to the Academy to collect their official certificates. This will be a wonderful opportunity for a reunion, allowing us to celebrate their formal completion of GCSEs and, crucially, to hear firsthand about their exciting new ventures, whether they've embarked on college courses, apprenticeships, or other pathways. We are looking forward to catching up and celebrating their continued progress in the next chapter of their lives.

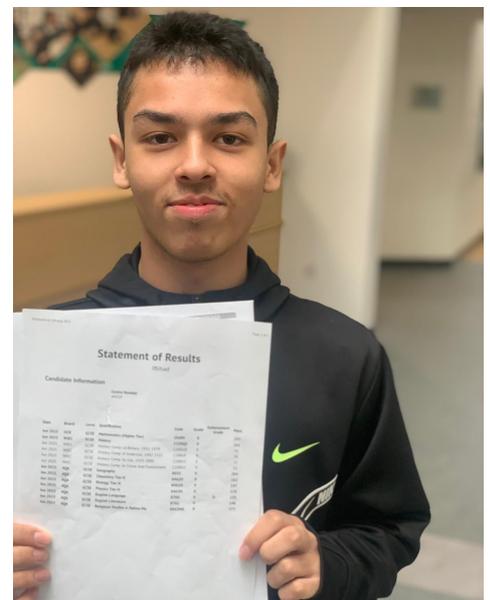


GCSE Results Day: A Day of Triumph and Emotion at TSLA

Thursday, August 21st, dawned with a mixture of anticipation and nerves at The St Lawrence Academy as Year 11 students gathered to receive their all-important GCSE results. The atmosphere was electric, soon filled with ecstatic faces as envelopes were torn open, revealing the culmination of years of hard work and dedication. Many students celebrated excellent achievements, their joy infectious.

For some, the moment was too overwhelming to share publicly; a few preferred to take their envelopes home to open privately with family, while others quickly ripped them open, eager to discover their fate. Conversely, some students took a while to pluck up the courage, the weight of the moment palpable before they finally revealed their grades. Academy staff were on hand, many with tears in their eyes,

sharing in the happy tears of their students. It was truly lovely to witness the excitement as students looked ahead to the next chapter in their lives, discussing their plans for further education at institutions like John Leggott College (JLC) and North Lindsey College, following their recent open days.



Unbelievable GCSE Success for Ruby and Iftihad

Heartfelt congratulations goes out to Ruby and Iftihad, two of The St Lawrence Academy's most exceptional and highest-achieving students this academic year! Both have achieved outstanding GCSE results, securing an impressive collection of Grade 9s across all their subjects, with just one Grade 8 each. In addition to her brilliant GCSEs, Ruby also earned a Grade A in the Free-Standing Mathematics Qualification (FSMQ). This outstanding academic success is a testament to their unwavering dedication, tireless hard work, and profound commitment to their studies throughout their time at the Academy.

Their remarkable achievement truly sets an inspiring example for all their peers and is a monumental milestone for The St Lawrence Academy as a whole.

When asked about her incredible success, Ruby shared, "I'm absolutely thrilled with my results! It's been a lot of hard work, but knowing that all those late nights studying have paid off makes it all worth it. I'm so grateful for the support from my teachers at The St Lawrence Academy; they really pushed me to achieve my best."

Their exemplary academic performance not only highlights



their individual brilliance but also underscores the supportive and rigorous learning environment fostered at The St Lawrence Academy. Ruby and Iftihad have undoubtedly laid a strong foundation for their future academic and professional endeavors, and we eagerly anticipate all the amazing things they will achieve next.

Local Talent Heads to Gordonstoun on Music Scholarship

Congratulations to Jessica, who was awarded a highly prestigious music scholarship to the esteemed Gordonstoun School in Scotland! She joined the school in September, following her truly outstanding performance in her recent GCSE examinations. Jessica is now poised to follow in the impressive footsteps of other successful former students who have attended Gordonstoun, including both Rahela Khanom and Sam Reid.

Gordonstoun is widely recognized as an elite and highly selective private educational institution, renowned globally for its rich history of educating members of the British Royal Family, notably including both Prince Philip and His Majesty King Charles III. Without any doubt, Gordonstoun will provide an absolutely exceptional and nurturing environment for Jessica to further her musical talents and flourish academically and personally in the years to come.



Seamless Transition: Year 7 Students Flourish

The new cohort of Year 7 students at The St Lawrence Academy has settled in exceptionally well. They've shown great adaptability by quickly getting used to their new surroundings and the experiences of secondary school. It's been great to see them forming new friendships, engaging with their subjects, and contributing to the vibrant and inclusive academy community.

A key part of this smooth transition will be the Year 7 Settling In Evening, which will be held on September 30th. This event will allow parents to meet key staff, including form tutors, and attend workshops that will give them insights into the academy's values and teaching methods. This will help parents actively support their children's education. We are excited to see these students continue to thrive.



November Mocks: A Glimpse into GCSE Readiness

No mockery here: Year 11 students get serious about mock exams as students put knowledge to the test week commencing 13th November!

As November approaches, our Year 11 students are bracing themselves for their second crucial round of mock GCSE examinations. This intensive period, focusing on English, Maths, and Science is a vital stepping stone in their preparation for the official GCSEs in May 2026.

These November mocks are designed to replicate the real exam experience, complete with strict invigilation and formal exam conditions. The aim is not just to test knowledge, but to familiarise students with the pressure, timing, and structure of the actual exams. The results will provide invaluable insights, highlighting specific areas where students need to focus their efforts before their final set of mocks in February.

Here are our handy tips for students to get the best out of these mock exams.

For effective preparation, students should actively recall information by testing themselves regularly using flashcards, past papers, and quizzes, rather than just re-reading notes. It's crucial to target weaknesses by using feedback from previous mocks to pinpoint specific topics or question types that need more attention. Practicing under timed conditions at home will help improve time management during the actual exams. Furthermore, prioritising well-being is essential, ensuring adequate sleep, healthy eating, and regular breaks to avoid burnout.



For parents, providing a conducive environment by creating a quiet, organised space for revision is highly beneficial. Offering encouragement and showing belief in their child can significantly boost their confidence. Assisting with organisation, such as helping to create a realistic revision timetable, can also be very helpful. Finally, it's important to encourage breaks and balance, ensuring students are not overworking and have sufficient time for relaxation.

This second mock series is a critical opportunity for our Year 11s to refine their exam technique and solidify their understanding, moving them closer to success in their final GCSEs.

TSLA SEND & INCLUSION

Mosaic: Every Unique Piece Matters

Introducing our dedicated SEND team: Deputy Headteacher **Helen West**, who focuses on improving student engagement and safety, and **Nusrat Choudhry**, our SENDCo. At TSLA, we are committed to ensuring every student receives the support needed to thrive and belong. Our collaborative approach creates a

supportive and inclusive environment where each student's unique challenges are understood and unique strengths are celebrated. This is the very essence of Mosaic. Mosaic is an after-school club where students can relax, be creative, and try new things together.

From cooking and art to gaming and team challenges, there's something for everyone. Just like a mosaic, every piece matters – students bring their own interests and talents to help create something amazing. Open to all students aged 11–16, Mosaic is a place to make, play, and belong.

Connect & Chat: Join our SEND coffee morning!



We're excited to invite you to our next SEND Coffee Morning on Thursday 2nd October 2025. We warmly welcome all parents and carers to join us in a relaxed and informal environment to connect with each other and with members of our dedicated SEND team. This is a fantastic opportunity for our SEND community to share experiences and discuss effective strategies for supporting our students.



nurtureuk

Mosaic We all fit together

THIS CLUB IS A PLACE FOR US TO HANG OUT, GET CREATIVE, AND HAVE FUN. THE THEME WILL CHANGE EACH WEEK, SO THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.

DATES

18/09/2025: Creative Art	06/11/2025: Creative Art
25/09/2025: Cooking	13/11/2025: Cooking
02/10/2025: Minecraft	20/11/2025: Minecraft
09/10/2025: Creative Art	27/11/2025: Creative Art
16/10/2025: Cooking	04/12/2025: Cooking
23/10/2025: Minecraft	11/12/2025: Minecraft
Oct Half term	18/12/2025: Creative Art Xmas Holidays

You can come to one week or all of them—it's totally your choice!

A quick note on Minecraft: We can only have 25 players, so it will be first come, first served. Make sure you get there on time to grab a spot!

For more info see Mrs Choudhry or Mrs Atkinson

SENsational Support at TSLA!

Despite the academy's varied curriculum, some students may still struggle to make progress. In these cases, the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Team provides additional help, known as SEND Support, which can include different learning materials, specialist equipment, or one-on-one and group support. If a student continues to struggle, the SENDCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) may involve external specialists who can provide assessments and advice. If you have any concerns about your child's learning, you can reach out to the SEND team directly or submit a referral form online.

Website Update

We are excited to share that we have updated our SEND page on the Academy website!

What you can find on our SEND page:

- ✓ Meet the SEND Team
- ✓ Referral process
- ✓ Pathways
- ✓ Parent/carer feedback
- ✓ Primary transition support
- ✓ Post-16 support
- ✓ Events & newsletters

Visit our **SEND Website** for more details!

TSLA SPORT

Treasuring Everyone, Transforming Community

We are incredibly proud of the vibrant sporting culture and exceptional dedication shown by all our teams at The St Lawrence Academy.



Our dedicated football, netball, and other sporting teams are the embodiment of commitment. They consistently attend their extra-curricular clubs each week, spending countless hours to hone their skills and get ready for upcoming fixtures. Their hard work, passion, and teamwork are truly inspiring to witness, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts both on and off the field.

This year has been especially exciting, as we've recruited talented new Year 7 teams across a variety of sports. Their infectious enthusiasm and willingness to learn have already made a significant impact. We are confident that they'll quickly become an integral and successful part of our thriving sporting community, carrying on the tradition of excellence and sportsmanship.



With unwavering dedication from our athletes and staff, we are looking forward to a fantastic season of competitive spirit and great achievements. Every goal, every pass, and every victory will be a testament to your tireless efforts. Your passion is an inspiration to us all. The entire school community is cheering you on from the sidelines. Good luck to all TSLA teams—we can't wait to celebrate your success and bring on the victories!

