



# John Spendluffe Technology College



## Welcome Message

On behalf of the Governors and all the staff I would like to welcome you to John Spendluffe Technology College. It is my tremendous privilege to be Headteacher of such a supportive and inclusive school. The school itself has been serving the local community since the 1930's and has had significant development and investment over the years, and is now housed in a well-equipped, professional learning environment.

We are fully committed to offering an inclusive and open entry policy to local young people. Furthermore, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum which is exciting and inspirational for the students.

Success comes in many forms. On average 70%+ of our students leave JSTC with 5 or more GCSEs and or Vocational qualifications grade 4 and above with many achieving 7s, 8s and 9 grades which are the top grades nationally.

The school is led on the values of **respect, responsibility** and **resilience**. These values are engrained throughout the school and is central to everything we do from celebrating success to the way we educate and promote positive behaviours and relationships.

We strive to ensure that the conditions in school are created to allow the students to become the best they can be, not only in academic terms but in Sport, Creative and Performing Arts and Citizenship as well. JSTC places a great deal of emphasis on student leadership and student personal development, and our students are rightly proud of their school.

There is a very special atmosphere at JSTC; visitors note the calm, purposeful and supportive environment. We value every child as an individual and understand the importance of ensuring students are happy and settled in school. As a smaller secondary, we know our students as individuals and celebrate them as such.

Joining JSTC is the beginning of an exciting journey; we look forward to welcoming all those who want to join us for the next stage of their individual growth and education. We encourage you to visit our website to find out more.

Mr S Curtis  
Headteacher

**Respect - Responsibility - Resilience**



## Future Leaders

JSTC produces students who are eminently employable. We recognise that education extends into leadership, as well, and opportunities for positions of responsibility are available to the students for all year groups. Our strong house system promotes competition and team spirit and is a very important part of how we work.

## Inspirational Teaching and Learning

We work very hard to recruit the best qualified teachers who are experts in their field to create a positive environment in which they too can thrive. Our staff are utterly dedicated, and I am extremely grateful to them for being so willing to go the extra mile. We recognise and never lose sight of the responsibility that comes with being in charge of young people's life chances. At JSTC students are taught by enthusiastic teachers who are passionate about their subjects. They all strive to be the best they can be, we support them with the latest professional development and educational research to help them to continue to develop and excel.



**Respect - Responsibility - Resilience**



# An Ambitious and Positive Culture

We work to reward and acknowledge high academic achievement and work ethic as well as students showing support and commitment for the school's values through leadership, kindness and community work. Students have an electronic rewards system called Bromcom. Students earn rewards for a range of areas, such as: classwork, homework, attendance, positive behaviour, kindness and being helpful.

**“Leaders have created a caring and inclusive school. Pupils say that teachers support and care for them.”**

Ofsted 2023



## Aiming High with The Wider Curriculum

There is a wide range of activities and opportunities outside of lesson time for the students to develop skills and gain knowledge from new experiences.

Students in all year groups are encouraged to participate in the range of activities outside of normal lessons. There are a variety of clubs organised by members of staff at lunchtime or after the end of timetabled lessons. Recent clubs have included: History Club, Photography Club, Craft Club, Computer Science Club, Sports activities, Music Club, Choir, Warhammer, Drama, Creative Club, and Guitar Club. There are also homework and friendship support groups and intervention sessions.

Many students take part in opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, NCS, Year 7 Camp, gallery visits, theatre trips, sports trips and numerous other events. The extra-curricular offer is reviewed annually to ensure it meets the needs of our students.





## What do Governors do?

The ethos of the Governing Body and of JSTC is centred on supporting the students to have the highest of aspirations for their future and to provide them with many opportunities to succeed. As Governors of JSTC we are responsible for overseeing the management side of the school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing, including the appointment and management of the Headteacher to ensure standards are maintained at a high level.

We enable the school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide excellent classroom teaching and a high quality of educational offering to students of all abilities. We are committed to the school community, acting as critical friends to the Headteacher and senior leaders. By challenging and asking questions about the school's performance data, and rationale for decision making, the governors aim to guarantee high standards.

Our Governing Body is the key strategic decision maker in JSTC. Along with the Headteacher, it is the role of the governors to set the school's aims and objectives around how the school will develop and improve. We set the policies, formulate plans and agree targets to help the school achieve these objectives. We also regularly review the strategic framework in light of that progress.

As an outward facing school, we recognize the benefit to being a member of the National Governors Association and comply with The Academies Trust Handbook over the financial running of the school. Regulatory information is maintained on sector specific databases at Companies House and 'Get Information About Schools' (GIAS).

Our Governors have a wealth and wide range of experiences and knowledge, from ex-primary headteacher, ex-secondary headteacher, local government representatives, finance, primary school teacher, health and safety and business owners.

JSTC Governors are committed to parental and community engagement and try to work with local stakeholders for the good of the town of Alford and the wider community.

Liz Ramm  
Chair of Governors

“Leaders have high expectations of pupils’ conduct. In lessons and at social times, pupils behave well. Pupils say that staff apply the behaviour policy consistently. The school is calm and orderly.” **Ofsted 2023**



# Respect - Responsibility - Resilience

## Transition



“I felt really looked after and welcomed when I first started. The teachers are really kind and they push you to do your best”

Year 8

“I was very nervous when I started, but everyone has made me so welcome. I really enjoy my lessons, and I’ve made so many new friends”

Year 7

Transition from primary school to secondary school is often a daunting and worrying time for students and parents as children move from what they have known for the last seven years, the familiar surroundings of their primary schools. We work closely with primary schools and parents to ensure a smooth transition, to ensure curriculum continuity information is shared to support the children’s academic, moral and personal welfare. Our Transition Programme gives opportunities for students to become familiar with their new environment via induction days and meetings with the Year 7 Progress/Pastoral team and Senior Leadership staff members. This enables the young people to have the personal confidence to feel secure on their first day in September at their new school.

“I love this school: it is exciting, and the teachers are really helpful. There are lots of clubs and trips to get involved in” Year 9

## Online 2023 Admission Process

You will already have the Common Application Form Website details to select your child’s school for 2023.

**Key dates:** 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022: Applications can be made through the LCC website:

[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

31<sup>st</sup> October 2023: Closing date for applications for secondary schools.

**Our School is under**

**Alford John Spendluffe (9254048)**

Please select as your first entry if you would like a place with us.

If you would like help and support completing the common application form online, please do not hesitate to phone 01507 462443 or call in and we will arrange to have a computer and a member of staff to help you.

# Student Wellbeing and Support

Providing a safe and respectful environment for students is essential for them to learn, achieve and grow as individuals.

At JSTC we take our responsibility very seriously to provide a happy, safe and respectful environment for our students to grow, learn, develop and achieve. We at JSTC aim to support students on their journey from Year 7 to Year 11 and equip them with the necessary resilience to fully engage with the world beyond our school.

We are fully committed to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all students and staff members. We currently have 3 trained Mental Health Champions (Mrs Powell, Mr Curtis and Miss Harrison) and will be training more staff over this coming year.

We have dedicated and exceptionally talented Progress and Pastoral teams for each year group to support and guide your child through their secondary school journey.

We have additional support via our Emotional Literacy Support Assistants, Peer Mentors, Mental Health Support Team and 2 external Counsellors.



## Supporting our students

Where and who can I get help from?

Family and Friends

Peer Mentors and Student Ambassadors

Form tutors, Progress and Pastoral Teams

Kooth- online support service

Schools Safeguarding Team- Mrs Paice and Mr Thornalley

School Counsellor- Needbright Solutions/ELSA

External Support, such as Healthy Minds, CAMHS and Mental Health Support Team

# High Expectations and Standards

High standards of behaviour are expected from all our students. Our school 'code of conduct' is based on **respect** for all those in our learning community. By following this code all students will experience high standards of teaching and learning. When standards of behaviour fall below those expected, the strategies to address this are applied consistently as outlined in our policies. The pastoral teams for each year (Progress Leader, Deputy Progress Leader and Pastoral Leader) monitor behaviour and progress for their year group and work with parents to ensure high standards are maintained.

Additionally, parents are given logins to the school's behaviour monitoring system enabling them to see the current rewards and behaviour record of their child.



## Uniform

We have high expectations with regards to our uniform. Our policy is in place to help both parents and students make the right choice when it comes to appropriate attire. There is an expectation for the students to wear the correct uniform at all times and for families to support this.

We consider the wearing of uniform to be very important. It provides our students with an identity, it helps promote a purposeful approach to learning and it demonstrates a commitment to the values of our school. Our consistent approach is appreciated by students and parents. Indeed, both students and parents have worked hard with us to ensure that the uniform is of a high standard and appropriate to the requirements of modern-day education. There is an expectation that all members of the school will strive to look their best at all times. For students, this will mean wearing the John Spendluffe Technology College uniform correctly when travelling to, from and within school and when on trips and visits.

Students are also expected to follow our dress code with respect to footwear and jewellery. Extreme haircuts (as determined by the school) and evidence of no-natural coloured dye or tints are not acceptable. All items of uniform, including PE kit, must be clearly marked with the student's name. An up-to-date version of our uniform agreement is always available on our website under our 'Families' section.



# Communication

## Keeping you updated

At JSTC, we aim to ensure families are fully engaged with life at the school, we pride ourselves on the strong and positive relationships we have with families. As well as being invited to parents' evenings, you will receive regular updates and progress reports about your child, alongside invitations to attend a range of events as part of the JSTC family.

## Electronic Communication

### Email and Bromcom (My Child at School App)

We are trying to reduce our impact on the environment by cutting down on the use of paper wherever possible. One major area where we can achieve this is by using emails and messages via our school app as a means of communication rather than letters. We ask parents to supply us with an email address and engage with our school app and we will use this for day-to-day contact. Important documents will still be issued by letter. All letters will be stored on the school website.

## Text messages

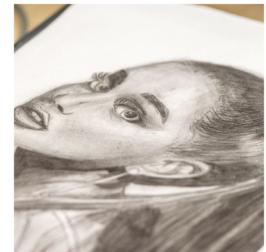
Sometimes, we will need to contact parents quickly, for example, if the school is to close early. To do this, we will use text messages and/or email. To ensure that we communicate effectively, please remember to update us of changes to contact numbers and emails.

## Parents' evenings

Parents' evenings for all year groups are held throughout the year. This is an opportunity for you to speak with specific subject teachers and gain progress information about your child. We also have Engagement Evenings for every year group, these consist of information to support revision, Option/subject choices, post 16 and other topics. Families will receive notification of the time and date of all events, and we strongly recommend attendance to all to support your child's development.

## Web and social media

The school has a website with lots of information. It has a dedicated 'families section to enable you to access essential information, including guidance on keeping your child safe online. We also post regular updates on our social media channels, including Facebook and Twitter. We urge you to join these pages and see the amazing student achievements and discovering our school journey.



**“Pupils feel safe in school. They know that there is always an adult they can speak to. They say that it is a school where ‘you can get to know people better and make friends.’”**

**Ofsted 2023**



# PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Students are encouraged to seek out work experience placements and use these to gain a range of transferable skills, as well as the experience necessary for future courses and/or training. We have a bespoke Careers package called Unifrog for all year groups to support students making informed choices for their future. We are keen for our students to develop their personal skills, as well as achieve academically. Students take advantage of the opportunities for them to develop their leadership, communication and teamwork skills through a variety of roles in all year groups.

If you are an ex-JSTC student and are happy to share your journey and achievements with our current students, please contact the school office.

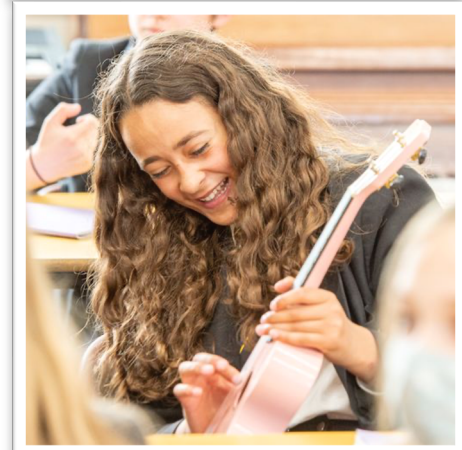
## Talents and Aspirations

At JSTC we aim to develop the talents and aspirations of all students. Those who join the school with high prior attainment in core subjects will be placed in a fast-track group from the outset to accelerate progress.

Students who show particular gifts in a specific subject are quickly identified and additional opportunities are provided for them in and beyond the classroom.

These come in the form of extension activities in lessons; personalised home learning tasks and encouragement to participate in the wide range of skill enhancement opportunities and competitions.

Activities include school productions; art and photography competitions; writing groups; STEM Clubs (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths); Young Enterprise to name but a few.



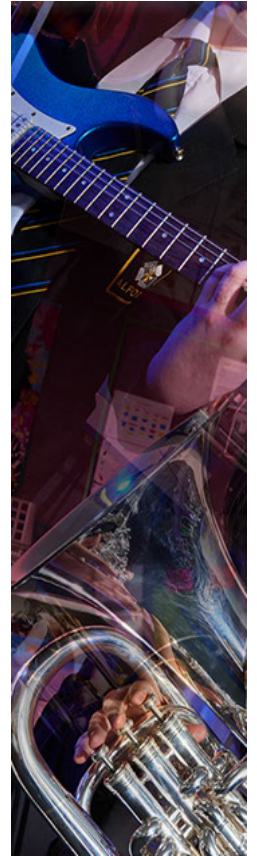
# Respect - Responsibility - Respect

## JSTC Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed to challenge students to **achieve** what for them is **individual excellence** and to be the vehicle for delivering deep **social justice**. We are fiercely ambitious, and our curriculum reflects this passion and embeds the school ethos of **respect, responsibility and resilience in the character of our students**.

We are extremely proud of our students' academic success, but we are equally proud of the all-round education and support our students are offered. This rounded education gives them the skills they need to be successful when they leave the school. Our curriculum provides the provision of all the skills necessary for our students to reach their full potential and to meet the challenges of whichever career path they may ultimately choose.

Trips and extra-curricular enrichment opportunities form part of this development. School trips are organised each year and various members of staff arrange educational visits to places of interest and to the theatre etc. Educational holidays abroad also take place and full details of any journeys are sent to parents. Participation on a trip or visit is dependent on good behaviour in school.



‘In lessons, pupils have positive attitudes and engage well with their learning. A typical comment was: ‘Teachers help us know when we are progressing; this helps me learn.’ Ofsted 2023

### JSTC provides a happy, healthy, inclusive learning environment in which:

- The unique qualities of every person are valued and developed.
- Staff, students, parents and the wider community work together and learn from one another.
- Everyone feels safe and secure.
- Equal opportunities exist for all to succeed.
- Principles of self-discipline, determination and personal achievement are celebrated.
- Moral, cultural and spiritual awareness develop a reasoned set of attitudes, beliefs and values to shape responsible citizens of the future.
- A high quality, innovative curriculum prepares students with knowledge and skills for a fast-changing future.
- Teaching and learning ensure continuous improvement to boost student performance.
- Personalised learning is regarded as a journey of challenge, adventure, enjoyment and achievement.
- Quality resources and excellent teaching promote mutual respect and wisdom necessary for teacher and student teamwork.





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