



ISSUE 6 – Friday 4 April 2025

THE SKA SPOTLIGHT

'Putting Every Student on the Path to a Happy, Successful, and Fulfilling Life'

Celebrating Success!

This term, 50 students from year 7 to year 13, participated in some fabulous dance routines over three evenings. These wonderful performances form part of the students' BTEC assessment pieces. Well done to all involved.



Miss Smith would like to celebrate Jayden B (Year10) who has shown exceptional dedication to the Enterprise and Marketing course since he started in September, ensuring he met deadlines and always completed work to the very best of his ability. Thank you for your hard work Jayden. Also, thank you for to Sarah P and Chloe W (Year 11) for presenting in the Year 9 Options assembly this term about their experience of the Enterprise and Marketing course over the last two years. This takes huge courage and shows a positive commitment to our school community. Thank you girls!

Safeguarding and Contacting the Academy

Anyone can and should report a safeguarding concern if they believe a child or adult may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty. To report a safeguarding concern within school hours please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs C Pilkington Smith via the school office. Click here to access the Safeguarding page on the Academy's website.

[Skegness Academy – Safeguarding.](#)

Academy Office: 01754 879122 or SKA-admin@skegnessacademy.org

Follow SKA on **Facebook** to see more updates, important information and student successes.

<https://www.facebook.com/SkegnessAcademyGAT>

Diary Dates

- Tuesday 22 April 2025 – SKA reopens following the Easter break.
- Tuesday 22 April 2025 – HPV First Visit for Year 8.
- Tuesday 6 May 2025 – Year 8 Parents' Evening. 4.00pm-6.30pm.

Every Student

Every Lesson

Every Day

Be present - Be engaged - Be excellent

Sport Updates

It has been a busy term of fixtures with the Coastal Leagues for Year 7 and 9 Football and Netball. We have seen some fantastic performances from our students this year and we look forward to reporting our standings in the league in the next addition of the Newsletter!



As well as the league fixtures our Year 7 Development Squad travelled to KEVIS Louth to take part in a football tournament against schools from the Coastal and Wolds area. It was a fantastic experience for all the students that took part and they represented the Academy superbly. Well done, boys!

After Easter we still have a busy calendar of fixtures and events. We will begin our preparations for Sports Day, GAT Athletics and District Athletics competitions. If you want to try and make it onto the records board, in addition to your PE lessons, we will also be holding a range of athletics coaching afterschool. Please look out on the Facebook page for information on next terms sports clubs as well as updates on results and up and coming events.

Fingers crossed the warmer weather will be with us after the Easter holidays. Please make sure you are prepared for the warmer conditions by making sure you bring a non-fizzy drink to your PE lesson. You can also opt to wear shorts for PE lessons, but these must be black as well as a black PE top. As we know the British weather can catch us out, so please make sure you are fully prepared for lessons!

Last week we welcomed one of our former SKA students, Jack, to talk to the Year 7 students about football and Sixth Form Sports Students about the opportunities available to them in sport, both nationally and in the local area. As well as delivering a presentation Jack delivered a high-level coaching session to the Year 7 students and a coaching skills session with the sixth form students. It was such an inspiring day and the students asked some fantastic questions to Jack of what it is like to work in a professional football club as well as work as a high-level coach. We thank Jack for his time, and we look forward to working with him more in the future.



Sport Updates

Finally, we had the pleasure of attending the Stanground Academy in Peterborough for the GAT Sports Festival. A group of students from Years 7, 8 and 9 attended to participate in Football, Cross Country and Badminton. Scores were kept throughout the day and we are pleased to announce that we achieved 4th place overall. Special mention must go out to our badminton players who performed exceptionally well throughout the day. Well done to everyone who took part.



Art Updates

Celebrating our Art Leaders this term

- Thank you to Poppy whose artwork was used to showcase how the qualification is structured for our recent Year 9 Options evening.
- Thank you to Broghan who has been busy making purple poppies at home for our Skegness Poppy Appeal display.
- Thank you to Marcus who has been supporting in Year 7 lessons this term.
- Our Year 13 art leaders have been busy with art examinations this term. We wish them all the luck with the final stages of these.

Celebrating success in the Faculty

The Performing Arts department have been part of the National Theatre's Connections Festival this year. The National Theatre, based in London, works with schools to provide them with industry-based opportunities. SKA secured a place in the festival in summer last year and has benefitted from having support from a National Theatre Director. Students involved in the festival performed "Her Name is Joy" this term as part of the drama showcase. The performance was incredible, with students demonstrating their acting ability, exploring complex themes. They received feedback afterwards which they can now use to support them in their next performance at the Nottingham Playhouse during the Easter Holiday.

Some of our students were lucky enough attend a visit to the Move It Dance Event this term. The event which celebrates all things music, allows our students to experience dance at industry level. Students got the opportunity to take part in different workshops, led by professional dancers as well as some celebrity spotting with dance group Diversity making an appearance.

Did you get to visit SKA this term to watch our fantastic dance showcase? The performance which involved students from all Year groups emphasised the fantastic opportunities we have on offer from Year 7 through to Y13. Students displayed themselves professionally, and with pride and we are extremely proud of their achievements. Thank you to everyone who supported.

Our Textiles club has been very well attended this term with students from many year groups attending during lunch time. It is great to see so many students embracing the subject, building their understanding of a valuable life skill.

Across the Arts and Culture Faculty many of our Year 10 and 11 students have completed assessments this term which count towards their final grade. We are pleased with the progress students are making and are looking forward to the release of these results in August.

Students in Year 11 Creative iMedia, Digital Information Technology and Hospitality and Catering completed a mock exam this term, in preparation for the written exams due to start after Easter. Mr Taylor, Mr Bailey, Miss Thompson and Mrs McGarry are extremely proud of the achievements they observed.

Art Updates Continued...

Written exam dates

- 1 May 2025- Digital Information Technology
- 9 June 2025- Creative iMedia
- 12 June 2025- Hospitality and Catering

Applied Law students in key stage were celebrating their January exam results this term with wonderful results seen across the whole Year 12 cohort. 100% of students achieved at least a Merit in the exam, with 50% achieving a Distinction. This is a great achievement at this point in the course and puts in place a foundation for students to build on this success.

Year 10 and 11 students took part in practical cooking assessments this term as part of their unit 2 submissions. Students, working to a brief, planned, prepared and cooked two dishes across a three-hour slot. Mrs McGarry, Miss Thompson and Miss Morris were particularly impressed with the standard of cooking, with many students demonstrating resilience and perseverance throughout. Well done everyone!

Shrek the Musical auditions took place on 1 and 2 April. Watch this space for announcements about the show, coming very soon!

External exam dates for practical subjects

- 24 April- Y11 Art and Design, Development Review (All)
- 28 and 29 April- Y11 Art and Design, Final Response, Option B students (KLA)
- 29 April- Sixth Form Performing Arts, Unit 1 Preparation Day
- 30 April and 2 May- Y11 Art and Design, Final Response, Option C students (VTH)
- 30 April and 2 May- Y11 Performing Arts and Dance, Practical Assessment and Evaluation. Sixth Form U3 Performing Arts and Dance, Practical Assessment and Evaluation.
- 6 May- Y11 Art and Design, Portfolio Creation (All)
- 7 May- Sixth Form U5 Performing Arts and Dance, Practical Assessment and Evaluation.
- 7, 8 and 9 May- Y11 Textile Design Final Response and final submission

Attendance Updates

What a fantastic term it has been!

Attendance at the Skegness Academy continues to improve, reflecting the dedication and commitment of our students.

Students have loved our Golden Ticket and Lucky Winner rewards this term. Mr Gissendorf enjoyed handing the tickets out to students in the morning and students loved receiving their Easter eggs.

This term Year 7 are in the lead for the best attendance and the most improved Year group is Year 11. Well done and keep up the good work.

Just a polite reminder from the attendance team:

You must contact the attendance team if your child is absent from school. This can be done by email or phone. It is vital these messages are sent directly to the attendance team in order for us to code absence correctly.

We look forward to term 5 and I'm sure our students will love our new attendance initiatives for term 5.

Easter Revision

Year 11 Easter Intervention Sessions 2025				
Week 1	Morning session 1		Afternoon session 2	
	Subject	Time	Subject	Time
Monday 7 April	I.T	9am - 11:30am	Media	12pm-2:30pm
Tuesday 8 April	Textiles	10am - 2pm		
Wednesday 9 April	Maths	9am - 1pm	Science	1pm - 4pm
Thursday 10 April	Sport	9am - 3pm		
Friday 11 April	No sessions			
Week 2	Morning session 1		Afternoon session 2	
	Subject	Time	Subject	Time
Monday 14 April	Geography	9am - 1pm		
Tuesday 15 April	History	9am - 1pm	Drama & Dance	1pm - 4pm
Wednesday 16 April	English	9am - 1pm		
Thursday 17 April	French	10am - 2pm		
Friday 18 April	No sessions			
When students arrive make your way to the subject area that you are visiting for intervention.				

Year 11 teachers will be offering additional revision and intervention sessions throughout the Easter Holiday. Here is a link to the letter and the timetable -

<https://www.skegnessacademy.org/attachments/download.asp?file=508&type=pdf>

We look forward to welcoming lots of students to the sessions!

Here is a link to the Easter Homework Booklet - [Exam Preparation Homework Booklet 2025](#)

UNICEF Update

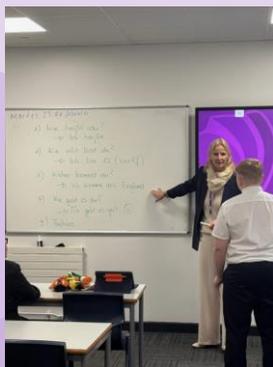
It has been another busy term for the UNICEF Steering Group! We continue to exchange emails with our partner school in Kenya and have been talking about Eid. Within our discussion about Eid, we have been carrying out acts of kindness including litter picking and putting up a forgiveness box in the Library.

We are very excited to report that we have tickets to Soccer Aid in June! It will be a fantastic opportunity for our students to see the amazing work of UNICEF first hand!

Teacher Exchange Programme

This term we welcomed Ms Kotyk-Skrodzki as part of the UK-German Connection Host a German teacher programme. Ms Kotyk-Skrodzki spent three weeks at SKA and taught our students Spanish and German alongside learning about other cultures.

One of our Year 11 students, Reggie interviewed Ms Kotyk-Skrodzki before she left and asked her about her experience at SKA. When asked about her favourite moment at SKA, she said "It was an eye-opening experience to see the sparkle in the students' eyes in their lessons. I also loved that the staff, such as the Principal and senior leadership work hand in hand. I love the phrase 'putting every student on the path to a happy, successful fulfilling life'". Reggie also asked her about what she enjoyed while being in Skegness and she said "The beach. I've only been once, but I spent two hours at the beach, and I loved it. It feels like a holiday.". Finally, Reggie asked her what motivated her to learn multiple languages and she said "I believe that learning other languages has opened a door to other countries. I have previously lived in Israel, so I learnt a bit of Hebrew. I've also lived in Ecuador with my husband. Also, I've lived in Singapore with my husband and two children. I teach Spanish in Germany, and I've lived in Barcelona, so I speak Spanish well. I believe it allowed me to understand cultures internationally. I learned some French in school also, but I've forgotten most of it now!"

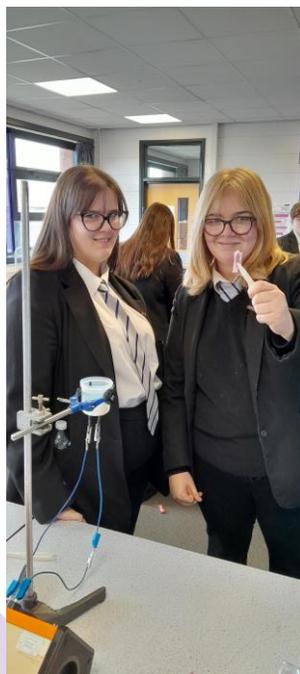
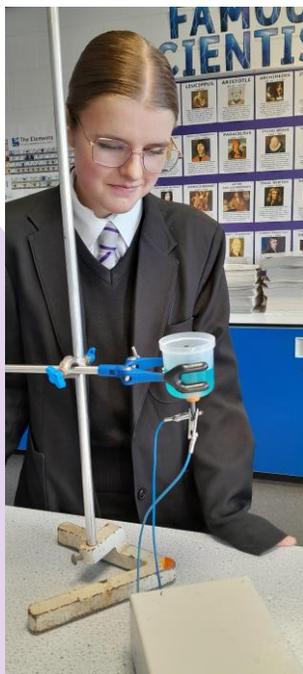


To find out what your child will be learning in Term 5, click the link below.

<https://www.skegnessacademy.org/attachments/download.asp?file=523>

Science Updates

This term, Year 11 have been working hard setting up and running an electrolysis experiment, which is one of the required practicals. Students need to be able to describe the method and analyse the results of the 21 Required Practicals and classes have been revising them in preparation for their GCSE exams.



Here are some of our Sixth Form students carrying out a practical on photosynthesis for their Unit 10 assignment. They had to set up the equipment independently and collect data using a photosynthometer, which is not an easy task! The science department are extremely proud of their achievements on this course, especially their January exam results where every student passed first time, and one student even got a Distinction! Outstanding achievement Tamzin!

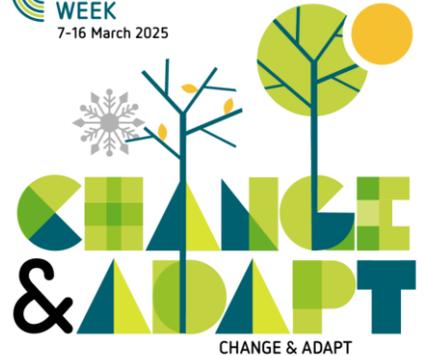


British Science Week 2025

The Science Department celebrated British Science Week this year with some one-off lessons based on the theme of **Change and Adapt**.

Year 7 were challenged to work out the best way to cool a cup of tea through investigating different factors e.g., surface area of the container. Year 8 investigated the effect of human impacts leading to increasing carbon dioxide levels on the world's oceans. Year 9 focused on measuring energy changes in endothermic and exothermic reactions in practical investigations.

BRITISH
SCIENCE
WEEK
7-16 March 2025



Go Karting

THE SKA THUNDERBOLTS

What an eight weeks that has been for the SKA Thunderbolts... from opening up the box to now having an almost completed the Go Kart. It's a good thing too with their test day just weeks away on the 6 May at Whilton Mill near Daventry. There have been highs and lows and let's not get started on bleeding brakes (literally).

Eight weeks ago, the students arrived to find this giant box and started unpacking it.

They started to assemble bits with guidance from Mr Freeman and as the weeks have passed, the students are now taking much more control. Its great to watch the students trying to fit the clutch to an engine or working out why the side panels don't fit. They have gone from not knowing what an allen key is to being able to fit and strip a brake caliper. They have gone from being told what to do, to telling each other what they will need to do.

Also, the go kart trolley which was kindly donated from a member of the community has been massively helpful. Who knows at the end of this some of the team may continue with Go Karts and some may consider that they could be mechanics or engineers. Activities like this are designed to make students think... "What can I do?" "Where can I go?"

What does this club encourage? It challenges students to excel to push them outside of their comfort zone... to make them consider and learn skills they never thought of learning.

With a task like this you have to respect each other and work as a team to complete tasks after all while Jayden and Charlie are sorting the steering column out in the background Jayden and Paige are fitting the rear brake caliper.

It's great to see everyone taking personal responsibility you can see here Paige is just fitting the master cylinder without which the brakes won't work. Did Paige ask for help? Yes. Did Paige get it right? Yes, as did Jayden who made sure the engine mountings were fitted correctly.

Any activity is only as good as the students taking part, so this activity is outstanding. Thank you to all the Year 9 and 10 students involved!

The Thunderbolts are not taking members for the rest of the academic Year. However, watch this space for the 2025-2026 team openings.

If you are in Year 7, we have something related to this coming up. Spoiler alert - you are not building a Go Kart. You will be working as a team to build small gas powered cars to race across the courts against the rest of your Year group. Watch out for Rocket Cars coming to SKA in June!

If your interested in careers related to this, please visit these websites:
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/automotive-engineer>

or

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/motor-mechanic>



English Updates

The English Faculty has had another busy term. We have not only been preparing for our upcoming examinations, but new texts and lessons for the summer term.

We are constantly revising our curriculum and hope our students enjoy the changes as much as we have creating and teaching them.

KS3 Reading

We are a reading school and therefore we are constantly looking at ways to encourage reading in our students. One such initiative is that students read a class reader for pleasure for 30 minutes a week. Additionally, we are spending time in library lessons to listen to as many readers as possible.

Listening to a child read is invaluable. It helps unlock understanding of text through the reciprocal act of listening and asking questions. Furthermore, it builds relationships; opening discussions about topics which do not ordinarily come up in conversations.

If your child requires any reading material, they are welcome to do the following:

- Take a book out from our school library. They can do this during their library lesson, at lunchtime, or after school.
- Sparx Reader – this can be logged onto here: <https://sparxreader.com/>

Your child's log in is the same as their Sparx Maths.

Next Term Texts

Next term our students will be reading the following:

Year 7 – Greek Mythology The Odyssey. Your child will be reading the adapted, three thousand Years old, tale of Odysseus' journey home to the island of Ithaca. This ancient text looks at morality, heroism and responsibility.

Year 8 – Modern Play Blood Brothers. Your child will watch and read the critically acclaimed play about the Johnstone twins. The play looks at class, society and relationships.

Year 9 – Modern Play The Princess and the Hustler. You child will be reading the newest addition to our curriculum which explores ideas about identity relationships and different cultures. This will help prepare them for their GCSE studies in Year 10.

Year 10 – Modern Play An Inspector Calls. Your child will be reading the final text for their GCSE curriculum. The play looks at class, social reform and social responsibility.

They will be provided with knowledge organisers on their first week back of term 5. Please encourage your child to use them as they will help their understanding of the texts.

Grim Tales | Creative Writing Competition | Ideal for 11-18 | Up to 100 words

Grim Tales uses fairy tales, folklore, myths or legends to inspire students. What does a modern fairy tale look like? Will you write from the villain's point of view, or tell us what happens after 'happily ever after'? Alternatively, students can write an entirely new story! Entry forms in the Library. Closing date: April 2nd for hand in.

For entry details for parents online follow this link:

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/secondary-11-18/grim?view=ind>

Getting Year 11 exam Ready!

Year 11 English Language revision Workshops

We have recently held a day of workshops for our Year 11 students. This was to show them 'How to read the exam paper' – meaning the questions and the sources. We know that the amount of reading can be overwhelming, so we shared a variety of tips and strategies to help them feel less overwhelmed.

Year 11 Easter Revision

We will be holding Easer revision for Year 11 on Wednesday 16 April. It will be between the hours of 10.00 am – 2.00 pm.

Year 11 Exam Resources

If your child would like additional resources, please direct them to one of the English faculty who will be happy to help. We have a wealth of resources to share with students and are happy to spend time going over them.

Intervention is held:

- Tuesday lunchtime in A42
- Wednesday after school in A54
- Thursday lunchtime in A54

Sixth Form Update

Sixth Form Trip to the NEC – Which Career Live & Which University Live

Our Sixth Form students attended Which Career Live and Which University Live at the NEC, where they explored a wide range of opportunities for their next steps after Sixth Form.



From Law, IT, and 3D Games Design to Paramedic Science, Sport, Psychology, Criminology, Education, and Policing, students had the chance to engage with universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers to help shape their future choices.

With Year 12 students preparing to begin the UCAS process in the coming months, we are excited to support them on their journey and see where their aspirations take them!



Sixth Form students have been working hard in the kitchen, carefully preparing a wonderful selection of delicious cakes for Macmillan Cake Bake. Our students have shown incredible dedication and teamwork to support an important cause. Their baking efforts will help raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Thank you to all the students and staff involved in making this event a success!



We can't wait to share the total amount raised from all the fantastic events that have taken place this week! It's been amazing to see so many students getting involved, and it truly highlights how our school community can come together to support a worthy cause and make a real difference.

Sixth Form Update Continued...

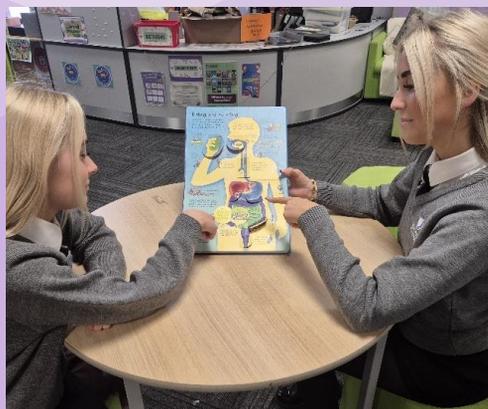
From the raffle and cake bake, to the Teacher in the Stocks, then the staff vs staff football match, and the Colour Fun Run to end the fun-packed week, every event has been a huge success. Stay tuned—we'll be announcing the final total soon!

Did you know £3000 could help pay for an online HOPE course, allowing up to 100 people living with cancer to access the 6-week self-management course. The HOPE course supports people to develop techniques and strategies to manage several aspects of living with cancer. This can be life changing for these people.

Reader Leader

Our Sixth Form students are making a difference by supporting Year 7's with their reading. Beyond literacy, they're building confidence, offering encouragement, and acting as positive role models. It's great to see these connections grow!

Well done to our Sixth Formers for their dedication!



Sixth Form Update Continued...

Year 11 Sixth Form Offer Letters

All students who applied for Sixth Form should now have received their offer letters, confirming conditional places.

On GCSE Results Day—Thursday, 21 August 2025—students will officially enrol in their chosen courses. They will also receive important information about their start date, induction, uniform, and bursary.

Entry Requirements

To enrol, students must achieve at least five GCSE's at Grade 4 or above, including English and Maths. Some subjects have additional entry requirements, which can be found in the Entry Requirements 2025 document. Students are expected to study the equivalent of three Level 3 courses.



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

JOIN OUR **SIXTH FORM** AND BUILD YOUR FUTURE WITH US

Entry Requirements 2025

All subjects require students to have achieved 5 grades at or above Grade 4, including GCSE English and GCSE maths. Some subjects have additional subject specific requirements which are listed below. Students are expected to study the equivalent of three level 3 courses.

Vocationals

APPLIED LAW BTEC National Extended Certificate Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths at grade 4 or above and English at grade 5 or above.
ART AND DESIGN BTEC National Extended Certificate, Diploma & Extended Diploma Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above.
CHILDREN'S PLAY, LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT BTEC National Extended Certificate Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above.
HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course - you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above.
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BTEC National Extended Certificate Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above.
PERFORMING ARTS BTEC National Extended Certificate, Diploma & Extended Diploma Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above. Additionally, students must also be practically competent and confident in a range of activities and performances, this is due to practical assessments within the course.
SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate, Diploma & Extended Diploma Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths and English at grade 4 or above. Additionally, students must also be practically competent and confident in a range of activities, this is due to practical assessments within the course.
TRAVEL AND TOURISM BTEC National Extended Certificate Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths at grade 4 or above and English at grade 5 or above.

A-Levels

ENGLISH LITERATURE AQA A-Level Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths at grade 4 or above and English at grade 6 or above.
HISTORY Edexcel A-Level Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths at grade 4 or above, English at grade 6 or above and a grade 5 or above in History.
SOCIOLOGY AQA A-Level Entry Requirements - For entrance onto this course, you will need a minimum of five GCSEs including Maths at grade 4 or above and English at grade 5 or above.

Skegness Academy also reserves the right to withdraw a course if there are insufficient numbers of students wishing to take it up and/or due to availability of teaching staff.

If you have any questions or concerns about Sixth Form, please email us at SKA-allpost16@skegnessacademy.org.

We wish you the best of luck with your exams!

Sixth Form Update Continued...

Sixth Form Reward Trip – A Day at Wild Pines

Sixth Form students spent the day at Wild Pines, taking on a range of outdoor challenges. From tackling the high ropes to testing their aim in archery, it was a day of adrenaline and competition. Many pushed themselves out of their comfort zones, with some overcoming a fear of heights and others striving for the perfect shot. The day was full of teamwork, determination, and plenty of friendly rivalry, making it a great way to celebrate their hard work.



Year 13 Destinations

Congratulations to the following Year 13 students who have successfully secured a place at university.

Jaydon – Coventry University, Sport and Exercise Science

Tamzin – University of Cumbria, Nursing/Registered Nurse: Adult Nursing

Swayle – Bishop Grosseteste University, Education studies with History

Chloe - Bishop Grosseteste University, Education Studies with Sport

Jessica - Bishop Grosseteste University, History

Poppy – Bishop Grosseteste University, Primary Education with QTS

Dylan – University of Lincoln, Strength and Conditioning in Sport

Teegan – University of Lincoln, Law

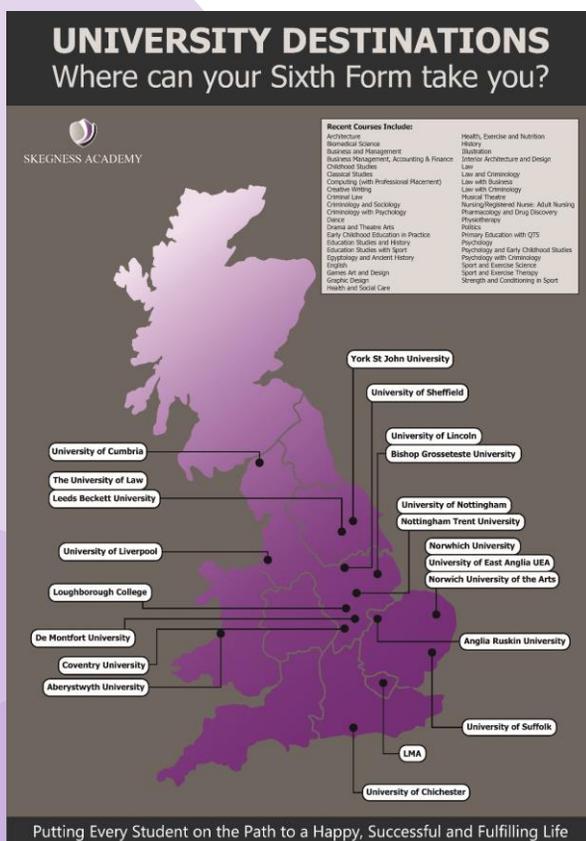
Xanthe - University of Lincoln, Law

Kara – York St John University, Musical Theatre

Maz – Norwich University of the Arts, Games Art and Design

Alfie – University of Lincoln, Illustration

Hannah – University of Lincoln, Interior Architecture and Design



Year 12 students have their career meetings next term with Miss Tyler on Tuesday 22 April.

Primary Engagement Updates

Our first Primary Engagement event of 2025 saw us host 40 Year 1 and 2 students for a Sports Hall Athletics competition. Students from the Beacon Primary Academy and Skegness Infant Academy took part in a range of running, jumping and throwing events throughout the event. The competition was led by our Sports Leaders who showed confidence, patience and clear communication skills throughout. Congratulations to Beacon Primary Academy for winning overall!



Our second event was an orienteering event at the SKA. We were delighted to welcome students in Key Stage 2 from the Skegness Infant and Junior Academies, Beacon Primary Academy and Huttoft Primary Nursery. Students developed their map reading skills and competed in pairs and team challenges.

Congratulations to Huttoft Primary who won overall. Well done also to Skegness Junior Academy who won the pairs challenge!

Thank you to our Sixth Form sports leaders for the running of the event!



EVERYONE AT SKA WOULD
LIKE TO WISH YOU A
HAPPY EASTER!



**The Skegness Academy
re-opens on
Tuesday 22 April 2025**