



The Forest School
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Headteacher
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Dear Parent/Guardian/Student

Re: Have you considered Forest6?

I wanted to write to you on behalf of Forest Sixth Form to invite you to look at what we offer Post16. Much has changed in terms of education - a fresh lockdown and GCSEs going out to consultation - so I would like to clarify a few points regarding admissions for September 2022 to Forest6.

Firstly a reminder of what we offer.

In addition to our Red Hot ALPs which speaks for itself where progress is concerned, our pastoral care has been the additional reason many have joined us and returned to us for their post 16 education over the past few years. Both students and parents have commented on how quickly they settle into The Forest community. This has been the case if you have joined as an individual from a school or have joined with a group of friends from the same school. We pride ourselves on fostering a genuine interest in your educational journey and treating you very much as a person rather than a number. We ensure our Forest6 admissions and allocated places are within our capacity to offer 1:1 support throughout the two years. We keep class sizes small. We range from 4 to 14 students in a group with an average of 8/10 in lessons.

We have heavily subsidised our sixth form so no class in year 12 or 13 is greater than sixteen. This will be especially important next year as work to ensure that any content missed at GCSE will not hinder progress. Coupled with this we have a very experienced A Level and Vocational teaching team many of whom are, or have been recently, examiners. The subject leaders in our five most popular A level subjects, Biology, Economics, Geography, Maths and Physics have over 150 years of A level teaching between them. This, we believe, puts us in a very strong position to remedy the fallout from lockdown learning.

You will be taught in 100 minute lessons that are ideal for A level and Vocational study. It provides opportunities for traditional teaching, discussion and debate, research and enquiry plus of course exam work all within the one session. We encourage you to become independent by allowing you to manage your own time but are quick to offer support if this is not producing the outcomes we believe you are capable of. Your experienced assigned tutor will be able to spot the signs of this at a very early stage.

We strongly believe we will provide you with the skills and relevant qualifications that allow you to progress onto higher education, apprenticeships or even launch your own business.



All of the Forest6 courses allow students to access University, Apprenticeships and work. Therefore, if the final recommendation is to follow a more vocational path, for example, this will not impede you in applying to University should you wish to do so.

We have just completed additional building works to further enhance the fabric of the school and improve further the learning environment- a brand new £80k food room, a multi million pound sports dome, improved gym facilities and the upcoming £0.5million revamp of our English block in addition to the £0.6million investment in the the main school heating system. We will be investing in solar panels for our swimming pool. We are looking at our carbon footprint and asking the 6th form students to lead the school alongside the headteacher on this environmental issue. Our current students and staff have been fascinated to watch the developments from the comfort of their dedicated sixth form cafe. You will also get the opportunity to be trained and paid to work in the dedicated sixth form cafe as it opens for evenings and weekends.

If you would like to find out a little bit more about sixth form and what we can offer, please visit our sixth form web pages via www.forest.wokingham.sch.uk and select the sixth form tab. You will find a wealth of information ranging from course details, pathway options, RAMS Academy and many subject specific information sheets.

Please come along to our open evening on Thursday 14th October, where you can meet subject tutors and current students as they talk you through the course and what it is like to study at Forest6. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/173523963847>

We cannot emphasise enough how much of a family we are here at Forest - none more so than at this time. As a former Forest parent, I have experienced my child going through GCSEs, application into our sixth form and COVID playing a part in his A level results. Therefore, I would like to reassure you that I understand your anxieties and that I have the very best intentions when looking at your application for Forest6. Ultimately, we want all sixth form students to be happy and on courses that best match their abilities.

I am available by email: sixthform@forest.academy during the school week and am happy to respond to questions either by return of email or telephone. You can also follow us on twitter [@forest_sixth](https://twitter.com/forest_sixth).

I look forward to building this relationship further over the next two years in order to best support you.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Collins
Head of 6th Form and SENCO