

The Forest High School



SEND Information Report

2020 – 2021

Special and Additional Needs at The Forest High School

Our School Offer

*How we support SEND pupils to reach their full potential at
The Forest High School.*

The information provided in this offer outlines the provision and support offered to children who have special or additional needs at The Forest High School. As a school we are committed to narrowing the attainment gap between SEND and non-SEND pupils. All Special educational needs are addressed through quality first teaching in the classroom plus a range of support and interventions which are tailored to the individual needs of the child.

Identification of SEND needs

- Our Learning Support Department works closely with the Welfare, Wellbeing and Inclusion team to identify incoming Year 7 children who have additional learning needs (ALN) and who may require additional educational and/or pastoral support. Members of our transition team also visit all of our partner primary schools to speak to primary school colleagues and to gather information and data about every child joining our school.
- If additional needs are identified prior to transfer to The Forest High School we then invite parents/carers and students to visit our school, speak with staff and have a tour of our facilities. We also offer additional transfer days during the summer term in order to facilitate a successful transfer.
- When students arrive in September we test each student with a range of screening assessment tests to determine if they need further support or intervention.
- Parents are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have with regard to educational progress with their child's form tutor, subject teacher, SENCo or Deputy SENCo. We have an open door policy and parents are welcome to raise concerns at any time.
- For children who arrive at FHS without an identified need we aim to identify as early as possible within our setting. Initial identification is usually through comments or concerns brought by parents, or school staff working directly with the child. These concerns may be based on the pupil's general well-being, their emotional or behavioural presentation, their progress in comparison to their peer group, or their profile against recognised characteristics of specific forms of SEND. School staff members receive a regular programme of training to support them in the identification of SEND.

How will we teach and support students with SEND?

- If a special educational need is identified then all staff will be made aware through the SEND register. Students will also be placed on an appropriate plan according to their needs. These plans, which prioritise key needs with measurable targets will be discussed with parents and reviewed at regular intervals. All staff will be aware of these plans.
- A range of additional provision and intervention strategies are available to students who require a more personalised approach to their learning. This may include support in the classroom from a learning mentor, one to one mentoring, small group teaching and access to additional resources. This provision will be coordinated and monitored by the Learning Support Team in conjunction with classroom teachers and Faculty Leads.
- For students with a high level of need, plans with short and long term targets will be created which prioritise key needs with measurable targets.
- Where available Learning Mentor's may be allocated to support in the classroom. They will ensure that your child can engage in lessons and they will facilitate independent learning.
- Formal review meetings are held for students with EHC plans. Parents, students and relevant supporting outside agencies will be invited to the reviews where the impact of the support offered is considered and support arrangements are reviewed and updated accordingly.

Links with outside agencies.

At The Forest High School we work closely with many outside agencies. By drawing on the expertise of others we are able to offer a multi-agency planned approach to address the SEND needs of your child. These are some of the external agencies that we may engage with in order to support you and your child:

- Advisory Teachers Service
- Gloucestershire SEND Monitoring and Support service
- SENDIASS
- The Autism Team
- School Nurse
- CYPS (Children and Young People's Services)/CAMHS
- GP
- Social Care
- Young Carers
- Exam Considerations
- Youth Support Team
- Educational Psychologist
- Hearing Impairment Service
- Speech and Language Therapists
- School Counsellor
- Infobuzz
- Trailblazers – Mental Health Team
- Early Help
- GFAPs
- Barnardo's

Providing Effective Provision

At The Forest High School the SEND department work in collaboration with the whole school to provide the following in-school provision according to the needs of your child:

- The Branch is our 'Achievement First Learning Centre' that provides a safe haven at break and lunch time as well as being an area for running small group interventions and offering 1:1 support
- Learning Mentor support in the classroom
- Numeracy interventions and support – Numicon, Power of 2 and Times Table Rock Stars
- Read, Write, Inc. (RWI) literacy Intervention Programme
- Challenge Curriculum
- Reading groups
- Transitional support from KS2, KS3 & KS4
- Counselling
- Personalised timetable
- School nurse
- Dyslexia screening & coloured overlays
- Alpha smarts - a portable word-processing keyboard
- Exam arrangements; extra time, scribes, readers, netbooks, rest breaks
- Mentoring
- Home-school communication books
- Careers advice
- Student voice - students give their input to what happens within the school and classroom. Our desire is for students to know that their expertise, opinions and ideas are valued in all aspects of school life.
- Homework club
- Handwriting support
- Social skills groups

SEND Key staff

Head Teacher

SENCo

Deputy SENCo

Learning Mentor

Learning Mentor

Learning Mentor

Learning Mentor

Learning Mentor

Learning Mentor

Mr John Whitehead

Mrs Amy Roberts

Mrs Steve Brownson

Mrs Sally Bowles

Mrs Hayley Thomas

Mrs Sam Chivers

Ms Fiona Stacey

Mrs Lisa Hardiman

Mr Tommy Whitehead

If at any time you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's SEND needs please do not hesitate to contact:

- Amy Roberts – SENCo
Email: amy.roberts@foresthg.org.uk
Telephone: 01594 822257
- Mrs Steve Brownson – Deputy SENCo
Email: steve.brownson@foresthg.org.uk
Telephone: 01594 822257

SEN Governance – For information regarding SEN and our board of governors please email clerk to governors: kath.lee@foresthg.org.uk

The Forest High School's full SEND policy can be found here:

<https://academytrust.sgscol.ac.uk/media/Inclusion-and-SEND-Policy-SGSAT-2019.pdf>

Details of the Forest High School's SEND provision can be found on our website:

<https://academytrust.sgscol.ac.uk/the-forest-high-school/about/send-provision>

The Code of Practice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>

Gloucestershire's Local Offer

<http://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glosfamilies/localoffer.page>

Agencies you can access.

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education>

Covid amendment

The Branch is not currently open at break and lunchtime, however a space in the dining room has been allocated for support and SLT are on duty in key areas to allow students to discuss any support needs, with spaces identified in each bubble area for students to have a 'safe haven'.