

From the Headmaster:
Mr Mark Howe
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FORRES SANDLE MANOR
FORDINGBRIDGE

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to start by thanking you for your interest in working in our school and with our students. In addition to the information provided with this advertisement I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce our school to help further inform your application.

Although we are fortunate to enjoy an idyllic 35-acre setting located in one of the most beautiful areas of England, the first thing most visitors comment upon when walking around our school is the incredible warm, welcoming and purposeful atmosphere created by the pupils and staff. We pride ourselves on this ethos, where all members of the community are responsible for taking a genuine interest in every pupil.

We are not a school that believes in having a fixed idea of what every pupil should be. During their time with us, I want every pupil at Forres Sandle Manor to discover who they are, to be comfortable with who they are and eventually to achieve outcomes which go beyond what they originally thought was possible. It is my ambition that every pupil leaves our school with the knowledge, skills and attributes to be happy and successful and with the belief that there are no limits to what they can achieve.

We have recently announced that from September 2024 we will be extending our provision up to GCSE and since I commenced my role in September 2022, we have set out ambitious plans to ensure that by 2027 we are an outstanding 2-16 experience for our pupils. This includes curriculum expansion, significant development of our co-curricular provision and we are currently progressing towards the construction of a new multi-million pound STEAM building which we aim to have open by 2025.

These developments have already led to a real buzz within our school community and considerable interest from families considering bringing their children to FSM. Since September 2022, our overall enrolment has increased by 30% and this trend looks set to continue well into 2025 and beyond. Despite this increase on role we are totally committed to maintaining the highest levels of personalised care and support for our students. Our maximum class size is limited to 20 (the current average is 13) and all teachers have a maximum of 83% directed time to enable them to plan, teach and mark to a high standard. Teachers also enjoy over 16 weeks holiday per year.

As part of this development, we are now seeking a full or part-time SENCO to lead our Learning Support department and help to continue to ensure that all our pupils make outstanding progress and achieve their potential. We are looking for an inspirational, dedicated and caring professional and the new post holder has a wonderful opportunity to lead a small but pivotal department, whilst working in our warm and welcoming community.

On behalf of our students, staff and parents, I look forward to receiving your application and, for those who are shortlisted, to welcoming you to our school. Should you have any further questions or you wish to visit informally you are most welcome to contact me by phone or directly by email mhowe@fsm school.com

Sincerely,

Mr Mark Howe
Headmaster

