

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.

From September 2024, we began extending our provision up to GCSE (our oldest pupils are currently in Year 9) 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 the recent construction of a new multi-million-pound STEAM building which opened in October 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 more than doubled and this trend looks set to continue well into 2027 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 14) 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.

We are now seeing a new English specialist to lead our provision from Year 7 up to GCSE. We are looking for an inspirational, dedicated and caring teacher and the new post holder has a wonderful opportunity to not just to join a thriving faculty but to help shape it, 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@fsmsschool.com

Sincerely,

Mr Mark Howe
Headmaster

