



FOREST HILL SCHOOL

ASPIRING TO EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

Headteacher: Michael Sullivan BSc (Hons)



Working at Forest Hill School

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in working with us at Forest Hill School.

It is my privilege to be the Headteacher of Forest Hill School, a unique and ambitious school with a well-established comprehensive and inclusive ethos, rated 'Good' by Ofsted in January 2024. Our student intake is a genuine reflection of the community in our district of London and we are clear that they should expect the highest of standards in all aspects of their education. Our broad and creative curriculum gives them a firm basis on which to move forward to make choices for examination subjects as they progress through the school. A culture of aspiration and high expectations underpins this progression, with our students playing a key part in shaping the learning process.

Forest Hill's ethos is aptly summarised in our motto Aspiring to Excellence Together. We are a community in which mutual support and a spirit of relentless ambition drive a desire to ensure that we constantly strive to surpass previous achievements. All community members are encouraged and expected to contribute to this culture thus ensuring that the creativity and evolution of our student offer is maintained. We are a performing arts' school, but creativity does not simply apply to our performing arts' subjects; it also applies to the academic curriculum in which we promote engagement, enquiry and ingenuity. We want our students to emerge from Forest Hill School as engaged citizens and leaders of the future, fully equipped to confidently enter a competitive world.

We communicate and reinforce the vision and ethos of the school community through our Core Values (<https://foresthill.lewisham.sch.uk/motto-and-values/>), which were developed in consultation with all stakeholders:

- Hard Work
- Ambition
- Respect
- Kindness

All aspects of life at Forest Hill is underpinned by these values, and we promote them as the prerequisites of academic excellence and success. The values also encapsulate a sense of pride in belonging to Forest Hill, something which is shared by all students and staff.

Forest Hill School places a heavy emphasis on the holistic development of our young people. Our pastoral system is a real strength and we are recognised for this. The focus on performing arts broadens the curriculum but also gives many opportunities outside of it, with free music lessons available to all and a plethora of opportunities to become involved in music, drama and dance performances within the school and beyond.

We have a strong tradition of sporting excellence with our representative teams regularly winning honours at local and London-wide levels, as well as nationally. In addition to this, sport is widely enjoyed at participation level as part of our extra-curricular offer, with many clubs, activities (including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award) and school journeys available to our students. We actively encourage staff to bring their passions and interests to add to our wider offer.

At Forest Hill School, staff wellbeing and professional development is very important to us. We have an early closure one day per week to provide dedicated planning time as well as identified slots in the meeting cycle for assessment of pupils' work. The school also provides all staff with high-quality personalised training linked to priorities identified in the performance management cycle.

I hope our values and standards strike a chord with you and that you will pursue your interest in joining our school.

We look forward to receiving your application.



Michael Sullivan
Headteacher