



FOREST SCHOOL



Next Steps
Futures Programme
2024-2025

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Warden's Welcome

A robust careers programme is vital in an increasingly complex world where the young people of today will be required to adopt a flexible approach to their working lives. I am therefore very pleased to have this opportunity to thank the many parents and Old Foresters who have contributed by coming into School to talk about their workplaces and professions.

We want all pupils to leave Forest School aware of the challenges and realities of the workplace which is why we are committed to developing well-rounded individuals who are not only academically accomplished but also equipped with the skills, resilience, and adaptability needed to thrive in the 21st Century.

Forest's educational provision offers an unparalleled range of co-curricular activities, leadership opportunities, and personal development programs that empower our pupils to explore their passions, build character, and develop essential life skills. From engaging in sports and the arts to participating in community service and leadership initiatives, our pupils learn to think critically, collaborate effectively, and lead with integrity. These experiences are designed to prepare them not just for exams, but for life—giving them the confidence and capability to seize opportunities and overcome challenges in whatever path they choose. In an increasingly competitive world, it is precisely these qualities that continue to set Foresters apart. Forest is more than a school; it is a community where young people are nurtured to become innovative thinkers, compassionate leaders, and responsible global citizens. This is the distinct advantage that a Forest education provides—one that equips our pupils to succeed in ways that go far beyond academic results, preparing them for a future full of possibilities.

We continue to encourage your support in preparing our pupils for their next steps/futures. The Forest Network, for example, now has an online platform – theforestnetwork.org – which enables the mentoring of Sixth Form pupils and young Old Foresters, an initiative I hope you will consider participating in.

Meanwhile, this document gives you an overview of the Next Steps/Futures programme your child will follow this year. The Director of Futures will circulate termly updates and is always available to pupils seeking guidance. Do feel free to contact us.

Marcus Cliff Hodges

Warden



Preface

Deputy Head of Curriculum - Matthew Key

As Deputy Head Academic, I am proud to present the 2024-25 Futures Handbook for Forest School. In today's rapidly evolving world, equipping our students with the right skills and knowledge to thrive in their future careers is of paramount importance.

The Futures Department at Forest is committed to upholding the Gatsby Benchmarks, a framework recognised globally for excellence in careers education. But our vision extends beyond just ticking boxes - we aim to cultivate in our students the very competencies that the OECD has identified as crucial for the future of education and employment.

Key among these are critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. In an age of automation and AI, these "human skills" will be the bedrock upon which our students build their professional success. Through our integrated curriculum, which encompasses the academic and the co-curricular, combined with Forest's dedicated next steps/futures planning program, we empower Foresters to develop mastery in these areas.

Furthermore, we recognise the importance of flexibility, adaptability, and lifelong learning. The careers of tomorrow may look vastly different from those of today. Recent studies by the World Economic Forum project that 65% of children entering primary school today will ultimately end up working in jobs that don't yet exist. Moreover, the World Bank estimates that 56% of all employment worldwide is at high risk of being impacted by automation in the coming decades.

Echoing the key findings of the Times Education Commission, we believe that in order to thrive in this uncertain future, our students must cultivate a genuine love of learning. As the Commission stated, "Education must foster a lifelong curiosity and willingness to learn new skills." This philosophy is central to our Futures program at Forest. By nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset and a genuine passion for discovery, we ensure our students are equipped to navigate an uncertain future with confidence and resilience.

Beyond imparting subject knowledge, the Futures Department is committed to broadening our students' horizons. We facilitate encounters with a diverse array of employers, professionals and higher education institutions, working closely with our Sixth Form Team, opening pupils' eyes to the vast array of opportunities that await them. Our aim is to inspire Foresters to dream big and pursue paths that align with their unique talents and aspirations.

As we look to the future, the Futures Department will continue to evolve, staying ahead of the curve to provide our students with the cutting-edge preparation they need.



Welcome To Forest Futures

Director of Futures – Sandip Charlton

At Forest School, planning for immediate next steps and the future starts in the Preparatory School and continues to Year 13 and beyond. This is to allow all pupils to take an interest in and get excited about the opportunities available to them from an early age.

Next steps/futures planning is embedded throughout the personal development and core curriculum where individuality is embraced, and pupils are equipped with the knowledge, skills, behaviours and attitudes they need to thrive in their immediate next steps and in the future. This is implemented through a range of varied and bespoke opportunities which allow pupils to focus on what they enjoy and what they are interested in, which inform and magnify their aspirations. As a result, as Forest pupils progress into the sixth form, they have faith and confidence in the pathway ahead.

The logo for Unifrog, featuring the word "unifrog" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font on a green rectangular background.

The Futures Department collaborates with colleagues across the school to prepare each pupil at Forest School to thrive as a whole person and as a direct impact of this, thrive in an ever-evolving world. Pupils are guided in planning for next steps through conversations with teachers, tutors, Heads of House, Heads of Section, Academic Leads and the Director of Futures. To support with this, all pupils across the Senior School also have access to Unifrog, the online universal destinations planning tool.

Gatsby Benchmarks

Forest School uses the Gatsby Benchmarks, as set out below, as a foundation when planning and preparing pupils for the future. These are evidence based and are nationally recognised as being the bedrock of careers guidance. Our next steps/futures planning is progressive, cumulative and age appropriate. Forest School fully embraces a whole school approach to next steps/futures planning with the understanding that this leads to positive destinations for Forest pupils.



Please scan the QR code below for more information about the Gatsby Benchmarks.



Gatsby Foundation Benchmarks


- 1 A stable careers programme
- 2 Learning from career and labour market information (LMI)
- 3 Addressing the needs of each pupil
- 4 Linking curriculum learning to careers
- 5 Encounters with employers and employees
- 6 Experiences of workplaces
- 7 Encounters with further and higher education
- 8 Personal guidance

1. A Stable Careers Programme

The Next Steps/Futures Planning Programme at Forest School starts in Year 7 and continues through to Year 13, allowing pupils to have dedicated time to consider their next steps options as well as future pathways. This is to give pupils an opportunity to focus on themselves and to reflect on what they enjoy, what they are interested in and what they care about when thinking about their next steps/futures.

Our Next Steps/Futures Planning Curriculum is age and stage appropriate and gives pupils an opportunity to be curious and ask incisive questions about their next steps/futures.



 forestschoole17 • Follow

 forestschoole17 Our lower school pupils worked in groups with @ecoactive_uk (an innovative environmental charity based by the river Lea, East London), to help develop a restoration plan for the river Lea which experiences high levels of pollution, taking on one of the following green roles: Ecologist, Sustainability Consultant, Eco-Activist/Campaigner, Local Authority Officer or an Engineer and encouraged to use a range of green skills during the project such as: analytical skills, curiosity, self-motivation and taking a solution-focused approach...ending with presenting their ideas to the class. 🌱 #GreenCareersWeek

Edited · 40 w



 forestschoole17 Kicking Green Careers Week off to an amazing start with @naomi_wilkinson1, Children's TV Presenter, Eco-Warrior and Public Speaker - coming in to talk to our Prep School pupils, involving them in activities which encourage and inspire them to think about green jobs and green skills! 🗣️🌱🌿 #GreenCareersWeek



Next Steps/Futures Planning Programme 2024-2025

Y7-Y8

Y8

Tuesday 24th September
LS Assembly
Futures Launch/Re-Launch

Wednesday 25th September
Tutor Time
Learn About Jobs and The Future

Monday 4th November
Tutor Time
Updating Unifrog

Tuesday 5th November
LS Assembly
Green Careers Week Launch

Wednesday 6th November
Tutor Time
Careers and The Climate

Tuesday 4th February
Launch - Next Steps
Upcoming Events and Introduction To Apprenticeships

Wednesday 5th February
Tutor Time
Explore Dream Jobs

Monday 24th February
Tutor Time
Personal Interests Quiz

Thursday 25th April
Assembly
Planning Ahead - Reflection and Goal Setting

Y7

Tuesday 24th September
LS Assembly
Futures Launch/Re-launch

Wednesday 25th September
Tutor Time
"Who Am I?"

Thursday 26th September
Year 7 Assembly
Introduction To Unifrog

Monday 30th September
Tutor Time
Sign-In/Explore Unifrog

Tuesday 5th November
LS Assembly
Green Careers Week Launch

Wednesday 6th November
Tutor Time
Careers and The Climate

Tuesday 4th February
LS Assembly
Next Steps Upcoming Events and Introduction To Apprenticeships

Wednesday 5th February
Tutor Time
Explore Dream Jobs

Wednesday 19th March
Tutor Time
Personal Interests Quiz

Wednesday 7th May
Tutor Time
Planning Ahead - Reflection and Goal Setting

MICHAELMAS ONE

MICHAELMAS TWO

LENT ONE

LENT TWO

TRINITY ONE

TRINITY TWO

unifrog

FOREST SCHOOL VALUES

RESPONSIBILITY

COMMUNITY

DIVERSITY

HARD WORK

WELLBEING

GROWTH

LEARNING



Next Steps / Futures Planning Programme

2024 - 2025

Y9-Y11

Next Steps Personal Guidance Meetings

Next Steps Personal Guidance Meetings

Monday 3rd February - MS Assembly
Next Steps Upcoming Events and Apprenticeships Launch

Monday 3rd March
MS Assembly
Launch National Careers Week

Y11

Monday 4th November
MS Assembly
Launch Green Careers Week (GCW)

Tuesday 4th February
Tutor Time - Planning for Fair

Tuesday 4th March
Tutor Time - Reflect on Interests

Wednesday 6th November
Tutor Time
Careers and The Climate

Wednesday 5th February
Tutor time - Planning for Fair

Wednesday 5th March
Tutor Time - Plan Work Experience

Thursday 7th November
PM Reg - Personal Reflections

Thursday 6th February
PM Reg- Reflections

Thursday 6th March
PM Reg - Reflections

Monday 4th November
MS Assembly
Launch Green Careers Week (GCW)

Monday 3rd February - MS Assembly
Next Steps Upcoming Events and Apprenticeships Launch

Monday 3rd March
MS Assembly
Launch National Careers Week

Tuesday 24th June
Tutor Time - Looking Ahead - Goal Setting

Y10

Wednesday 6th November
Tutor Time
Careers and The Climate

Tuesday 4th February
Tutor Time - Planning for Fair

Tuesday 4th March
Tutor Time - Reflect on Interests

Thursday 7th November
PM Reg - Personal Reflections

Wednesday 5th February
Tutor time - Planning for Fair

Wednesday 5th March
Tutor Time - Plan for Next Steps 1:1

Thursday 6th February
PM Reg- Reflections

Thursday 6th March
PM Reg - Reflections

Monday 4th November
MS Assembly
Launch Green Careers Week (GCW)

Monday 3rd February - MS assembly
Next Steps Upcoming Events and Apprenticeships Launch

Monday 3rd March
MS Assembly
Launch National Careers Week

Tuesday 24th June
Tutor Time - Looking Ahead - Goal Setting

Y9

Wednesday 6th November
Tutor Time
Careers and The Climate

Tuesday 4th February
Tutor Time - Planning for Fair

Tuesday 4th March
Tutor Time - Reflect on Interests

Thursday 7th November
PM Reg - Personal Reflections

Wednesday 5th February
Tutor time - Planning for Fair

Wednesday 5th March
Tutor Time - Explore Pathways

Wednesday 26th November
Tutor Time - Planning for Options

Thursday 6th February
PM Reg- Reflections

Thursday 6th March
PM Reg - Reflections

MICHAELMAS ONE

MICHAELMAS TWO

LENT ONE

LENT TWO

TRINITY ONE

TRINITY TWO

unifrog

FOREST SCHOOL VALUES

RESPONSIBILITY

COMMUNITY

DIVERSITY

HARD WORK

WELLBEING

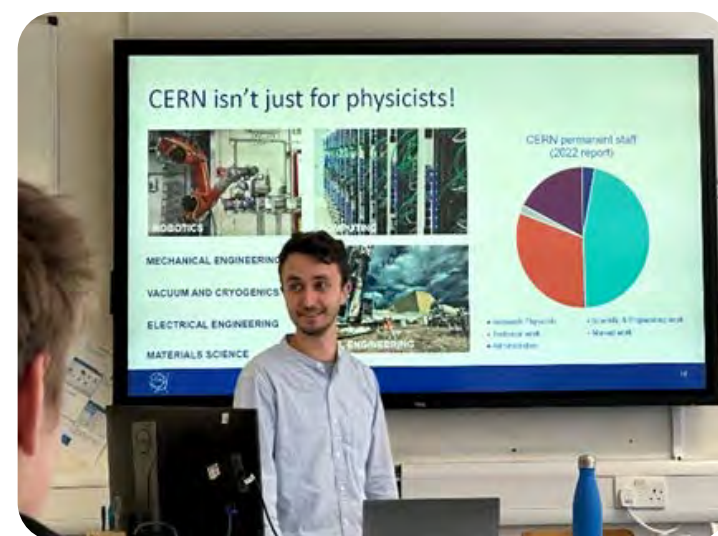
GROWTH

LEARNING

2. Learning from Labour Market Information (LMI)

We equip Forest Pupils with up-to-date LMI to help them to make informed decisions about their next steps/future pathways. We do this in a variety of ways, including through the Personal Development Curriculum which gives pupils dedicated next steps planning/futures tutor time, personal guidance meetings and hearing directly from employers about the world of work. Pupils across the school also have access to Unifrog, which contains key, up-to-date labour market information about a variety of job roles across a range of sectors.

In May 2024, Year 12 students studying A level Physics, were visited by an OF who is a Physicist and who is currently working at CERN in Switzerland. As well as sharing his journey after walking out the white gates upon completing his A Levels, he also gave the Year 12 students key labour market information as well as future projects aspiring Physicists may be inspired to develop their knowledge and skills about.



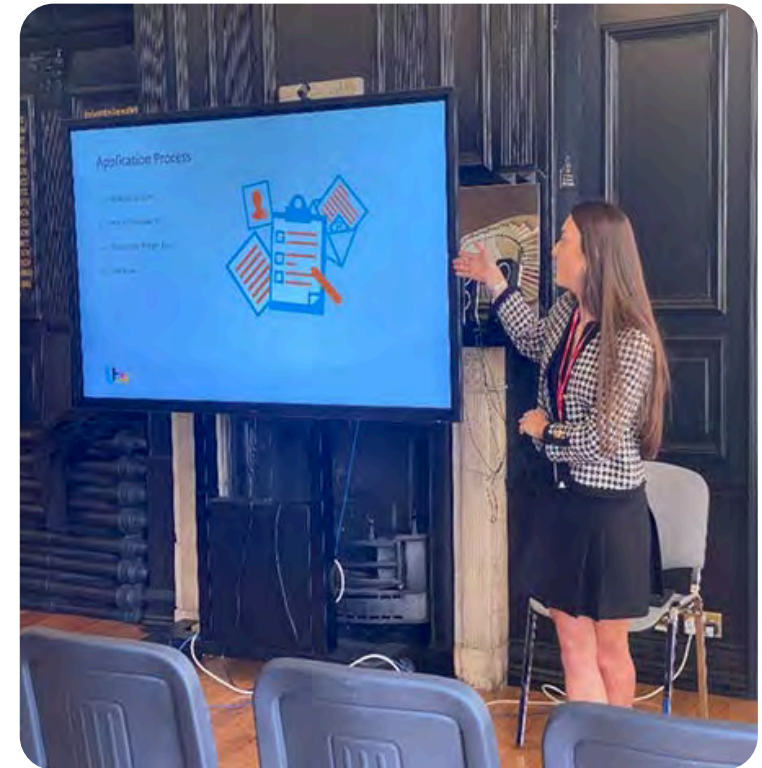
3. Addressing the Needs of Each Pupil

Forest School embraces equality and inclusion and as such, we promote a range of future pathways to support next steps decision making. We personalise our careers guidance to meet the needs of all students, for example, all sixth form students will have the opportunity to meet with Young Old Foresters (YoFs) to find out what it is really like studying Law, Medicine or PPE, for example, at specific universities.

Sixth form students interested in pursuing an apprenticeship are given personal guidance on how to prepare for applications which includes the highly competitive assessment centre process. In addition, students have the opportunity to meet an employee from their chosen pathway such as engineering, law and finance to have meaningful encounters with employees who are working and studying in the industry they are interested in.

*A Forest pupil said:
“It was interesting to hear
her journey of choosing an
apprenticeship.”*

*A Forest pupil said:
“A person with more
knowledge than me regarding
apprenticeships gave me
insight into applications and
life as an apprentice.”*



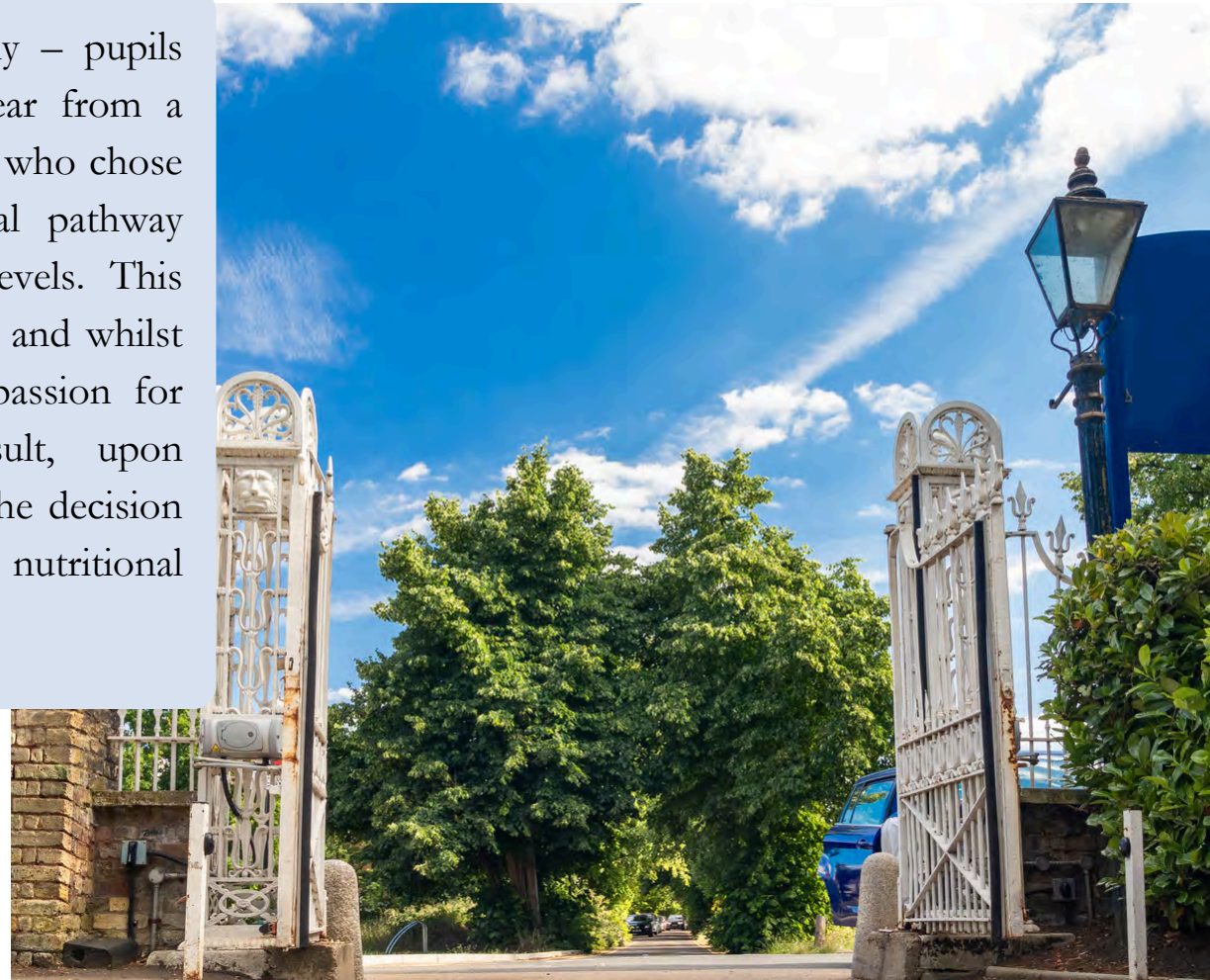


Young OLD FORESTERS



OLD FORESTERS

In a lower school assembly – pupils had the opportunity to hear from a Young Old Forester (YOF) who chose not to follow a traditional pathway after completing her A Levels. This YOF chose to go travelling and whilst doing so, discovered her passion for nutrition and as a result, upon returning home she made the decision to train and qualify as a nutritional therapist.



4. Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers

Careers education is also visible across the core curriculum and there are numerous activities, clubs, relevant educational trips and visits which link curriculum learning to careers. Examples include:

- In Art, all pupils across KS4 and KS5 will have an experience of a workshop with a visiting artist.
- In French, in Year 9, students complete a jobs and careers module.
- In Year 11, Geography pupils learn about different industries when learning about human geography
- Year 12 students studying Sport were taken to a Careers in Sports Festival at Crystal Palace in January 2023

Pupils across the school also develop key transferable skills in a range of ways which undoubtedly stand them in good stead to thrive in an ever-evolving world. To contextualise examples of these key transferable skills, please see below.

- Pupils studying Physics in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 have the opportunity to participate in the British Olympiad
- In Drama, it is the Forest pupil who manages the ‘behind the scenes’ tech for all school productions
- In PE, the daily sports fixtures that take place, give our pupils key opportunities to develop unique skills
- In Mathematics, pupils from Year 7 have an opportunity to participate in the UKMT challenges

By participating in the HPQ and the EPQ, all Forest learners are equipped with invaluable skills that will give them the opportunity to thrive, regardless of next steps. For example, planning and managing a long-term project, analysing key information, evaluating sources, developing an argument, critical thinking, problem solving, developing oracy, collaborating with peers and understanding ethical guidelines in research.



5. Encounters with Employers and Employees

Forest pupils benefit from multiple opportunities to have meaningful encounters with employers and hear firsthand about the world of work and the skills valued by employers in the workplace. Such opportunities start in the Michaelmas Term through the Personal Development and Core Curriculum and continue throughout the year.



87% of pupils across the school who attended talks during National Careers Week 2024 fed back that following on from the talk, they now have knowledge that they previously did not have.

*A Forest pupil said:
“The Economist did an amazing job at explaining his role.”*





*A Forest pupil
said:
“Very good session
– it was great to
meet him.”*



6. Experiences of workplaces

All Forest pupils do experience many opportunities to embed experiences of the workplace and to have meaningful encounters with employers and employees in a progressive way from Year 7 – 13.

Forest school supports pupils from Year 10, via personal guidance meetings, to start to think about work experience in areas of interest. In Year 12, Forest pupils are again given guidance on how to secure relevant and meaningful work experience linked to their planned next steps.



- Art pupils experience visits to the V&A, The Tate Modern and the British Museum
- Drama pupils experience acting workshops
- Geography pupils, in addition to international trips to countries such as Iceland, will experience skills development through meaningful encounters whilst visiting Norfolk and the Isle of Wight.
- History Pupils in Year 11 will have an opportunity to visit Berlin and participate in a workshop at the NADAP Documentation Centre
- Pupils studying a modern foreign language will have opportunities to have meaningful encounters in France, Spain or Germany.

7. Encounters with further and higher education

Pupils across the school are encouraged to explore all relevant future pathways through both the Personal Development and Core Curriculum in addition to guidance from Teachers, Tutors, Heads of House in addition to Heads of Section and Deputy Heads of Section. The Annual Forest HE and Careers Fair gives pupils an opportunity to speak with a range of providers from University, apprenticeship providers, employers, industry experts giving information on gap years and from specialist providers such as the University of Arts London (UAL)).



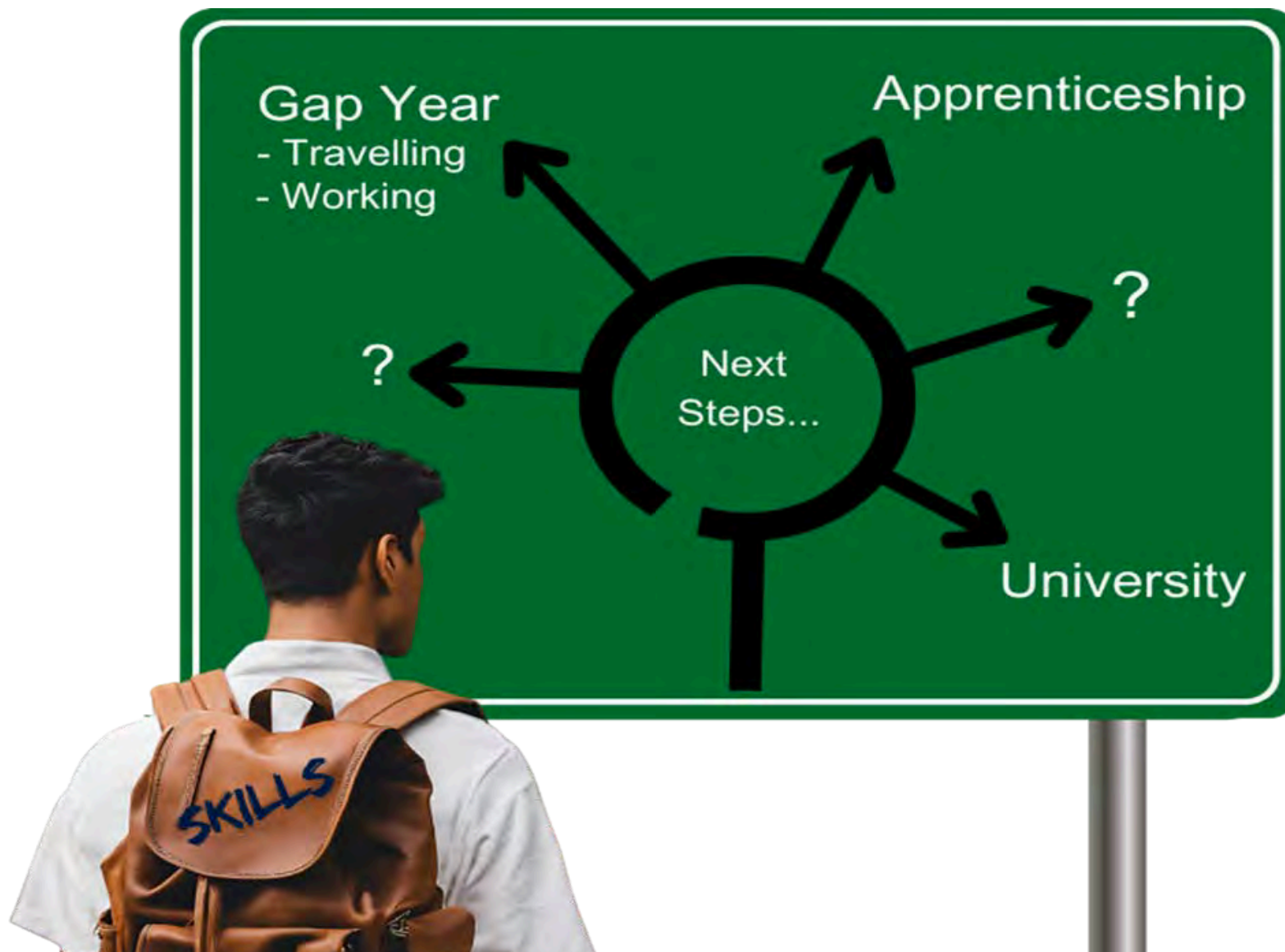
Over 73% of students felt that following the HE and Careers Fair in January 2024, they have a better understanding of the knowledge and skills required to pursue a pathway they are interested in, in the future.



In January 2024, Year 9 pupils in the Middle School had the opportunity to meet staff from Westminster Kingsway College to find out more about the pathways available to them after Year 11 if they are interested in pursuing a future pathway in becoming a Professional Chef.

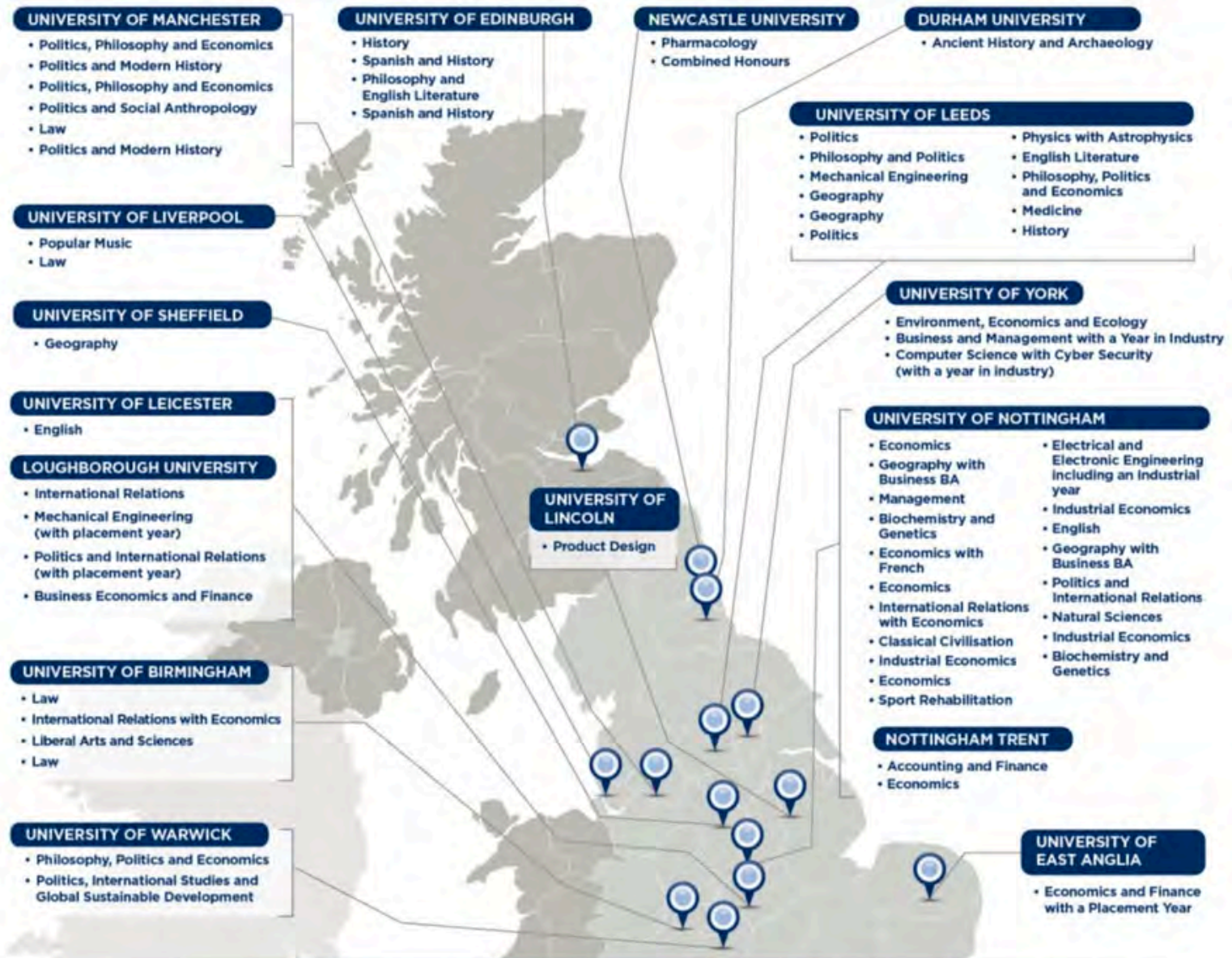
8. Personal guidance

Forest School provides 1:1 next steps/futures planning personal guidance meetings to all pupils in Year 10, by a qualifying careers advisor. Year 12 students are encouraged to attend next steps/futures planning meetings with Young Old Foresters and Year 13 pupils are given a next steps/futures planning meeting with an employer.



UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS OF SIXTH FORM STUDENTS 2024

SCOTLAND, WALES & THE NORTH OF ENGLAND



THE MIDLANDS & THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND



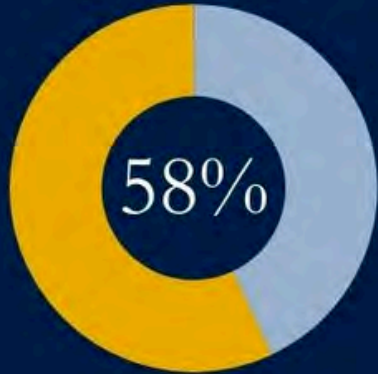
GREATER LONDON



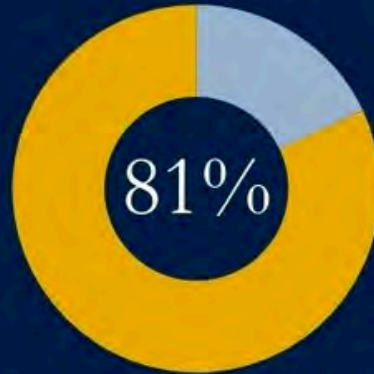


FOREST SCHOOL

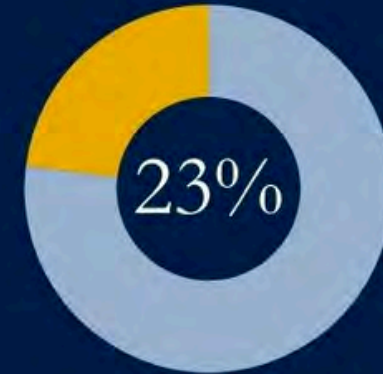
A Level Results 2024



of grades were A-A*



of grades were A*-B



of grades were A*



15 Foresters achieved A*A*A* or better, the highest outcome possible.

AAB

The average Forester achieved the equivalent of AAB

A

was the most common grade

44

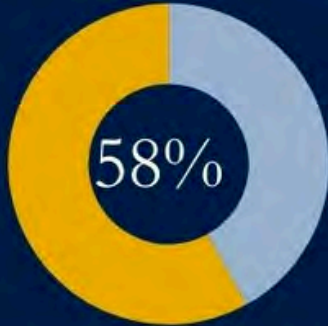
A*AA

44 Foresters achieved the equivalent of A*AA or better.

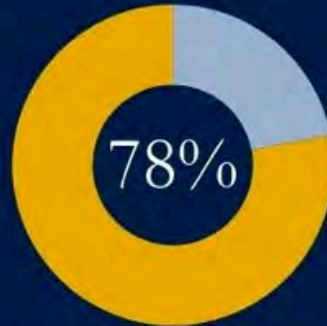


FOREST SCHOOL

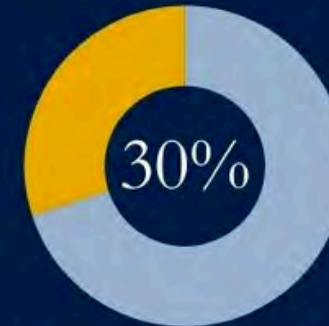
GCSE Results 2024



of grades: Grade 9 or 8
(A**/A*)



of grades: Grade 9/8/7
(A**/A*/A)



of all grades: Grade 9
(A**)



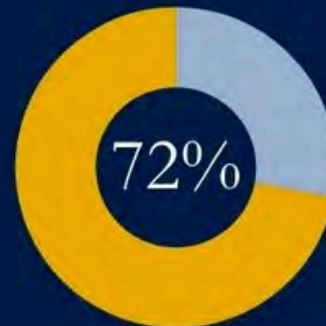
7 pupils achieved straight
Grade 9s (A**)

9

was the most common
grade (A**)

853

individual Grade 9s and 8s
(A**/A*)



of Higher Project
Qualifications were
awarded A*-A.



FOREST SCHOOL