Welcome to the prospectus for Foxford Community School. I hope that you find this information useful and informative and that it will encourage you to find out more about our school and our community.

Foxford Community School serves an area of north-east Coventry. There are around 1,000 students in the school, including nearly 150 in Post 16 education. Foxford has a comprehensive intake and welcomes students from all backgrounds.

Our aim is to provide educational opportunities of the highest quality for all students including placing emphasis on the development of creative and performing talents to enable our students to lead richer, more successful and fulfilling lives.

Everything that we do in school is rooted in our values:
- Success is realised in a variety of ways.
- People can and do change.
- Growth is achieved through learning and partnership.
- This is run through our whole school focus on PRIDE

Prepared
Respectful
Involved
Determined to succeed
Excellence

Our fundamental aims are:
- To promote educational attainment
- To work in partnership with other agencies to ensure that children are ready to learn
- To place particular emphasis on those learners who may be at risk of underachievement, marginalisation or exclusion.

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At Foxford we believe that a fundamental aspect of education is enabling students to be active participants in the school community. We believe that student involvement in the running of the school will strengthen their commitment to the school, their education, their community and teach them valuable lessons about democracy. This means creating structures and opportunities for students to become actively involved in developing and maintaining a positive school environment and ethos.

We seek to achieve this through the way in which students are taught and the content of the curriculum. Students are involved in decision making through their year councils and regular ‘whole school student voice’ sessions which provide all students with opportunities to express their opinions about issues of concern to the school community and to take part in consultation and decision making exercises.

Students also have the opportunity to join a wide range of extra-curricular activities including arts groups and discussion groups.

Foxford has a House System, whereby all staff and students belong to one of the 5 houses. The houses are Arctic, Corsac, Fennec, Ruppell and Swift (all named after foxes). Over the year we have a number of house competitions.

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Student Involvement

The best parts of Foxford are the teachers and the friends that I’ve made.

Yr 7 Student

Prjde
Respect
Involvement
Determination
Excellence

in all that we do
for ourselves, for others and for our environment
in our community
to succeed
in learning, progress and achievement

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Ruth Williamson
Head Teacher
ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

All students have individual learning needs, and one of the main tasks of Foxford teachers is to try to differentiate between the needs of individual students and to respond appropriately to each student. We believe that all of our students can achieve their potential although some may require more specialist support.

Students with Special Educational Needs

Students are supported by a team of teaching assistants and inclusion tutors many of whom have specific qualifications in understanding and supporting specific needs and regular training opportunities are available to all teaching and support staff.

This means that students may be offered provision that is appropriate to their needs in a variety of ways:

1. Through inclusive teaching within the classroom; differentiation and support that enables a student to access the curriculum and make progress. This is the main and most common method of supporting needs.
2. Through specific interventions provided for some students. This usually takes the form of a structured programme of support, carefully targeted and delivered by teachers, teaching assistants or inclusion tutors who have the skills to help students achieve their learning objectives.
3. Through individual programmes for a small number of students where it is necessary to provide highly-tailored intervention.

We work with a large number of students, sometimes throughout their whole school life, sometimes for a fixed period of time.

To support our students we may need to work closely with a number of outside agencies.

Higher attaining students

Provision for higher attaining students happens at three levels throughout the school. These are: within the classroom through inclusive, challenging teaching and learning, through enrichment activities such as working in partnership with local universities and through specific targeted support for individuals. Through all of this we aim to provide all students with learning opportunities which will enable them to fulfil their potential and achieve at the highest level and to broaden learning experiences, giving students the opportunity to explore subjects, ideas, and themes in more depth.

Students with English as an additional language

Our students with English as an additional language are supported in their English acquisition by all staff at Foxford. We pride ourselves on our EAL provision and our EAL students achieve very well.

Lessons are differentiated according to need and EAL students are offered additional English support when required. An ‘Induction to English’ programme, designed for newly arrived students, ensures that even the newly arrived make rapid progress. Our friendly ‘peer buddies’ and multi-language assistants help these new students to settle in and fully integrate into our school.

“Students for whom English is an additional language are well supported by a specialist team.”

Ofsted

Ofsted have stated that “the care of students of all backgrounds at this school is a real strength”. Foxford is a caring school with a student support system which guarantees individual support and care of the highest quality so that every student is always able to give of their best.

We have strong pastoral support systems in place, with Tutors, Directors of Learning and Learning Mentors who continue with students throughout their school careers. Students meet daily as a tutor group with their tutors. Communication between home and school is very important and parents/carers are asked to keep tutors informed of any issues affecting their child.

There are clear Student Expectations and a Rewards System which recognises students who “get it right”. Students are able to start every lesson with the opportunity to earn Praise Points for meeting classroom expectations and attainment. The Rewards System affords the opportunity for students to interact socially with each other on a range of trips throughout the year.

School Commitment to Safeguarding

Foxford is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its students. We recognise that some students may be particularly vulnerable to abuse and that students who are abused or neglected may find it difficult to develop a sense of worth and to view the world in a positive way. Whilst at school their behaviour may be challenging and we recognise that some students who have experienced abuse may harm others.

We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all our students and recognise that each student’s welfare is of paramount importance.
We are committed to raising the standards of literacy of all of our students, so that they develop the ability to use literacy skills effectively in all areas of the curriculum and use it as a platform to cope confidently with the demands of further education, employment and adult life. This is a key focus across the school and opportunities to develop literacy are built into all subject areas.

LITERACY
The study of English empowers students to become confident and creative communicators. With an enthusiastic approach to the subject we inspire and motivate our students to fulfil their potential through a combination of outstanding teaching, exciting texts and a supportive classroom environment.

English aims to provide all students with a solid understanding of written and verbal communication. We develop our students’ ability to read and understand a wide range of multi-media texts; to become skilled writers and to communicate effectively in real-world situations.

“Pupils enjoy a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities, including sport, music, creative arts. This enriches formal learning experiences and extends pupils’ individual talents.”

OFSTED
ENGLISH

Curriculum Statement
Our curriculum is designed to be student-centred, to engage and promote a love of learning both within the curriculum and beyond. We want to create confident learners that are flexible, adaptable and prepared for their life beyond school. Our curriculum strives to offer the flexibility needed to address a student’s particular or additional needs in a creative way. We want all of our students to achieve positive outcomes and the best examination results they can.

CURRICULUM SUBJECTS

“Mathematics has been described as “the most powerful and beautiful subject in the world.” It forms a universal part of our culture whose study helps us to recognize patterns and the world around us.

At Foxford, the Mathematics faculty aspires to the highest standards of excellence in teaching, enabling all students to build learning skills for the future. We set challenging targets and have high expectations of all students. We give our students a positive experience in the classroom, offering enrichment opportunities both within and outside the classroom such as the UK Mathematics challenge. This allows them to explore and enjoy the subject.

Throughout their study of Mathematics students will revise and extend the concepts which they have studied and build upon the foundations that they already have in the key areas of number, algebra, shape, space, measures and data handling. They will also develop their ability in problem solving which is a key-skill in achieving in Mathematics and at school generally.

The study of Mathematics is widely recognised as a gateway to a variety of professional careers such as engineering and science. It plays a vital and often unseen role in many aspects of modern life.

MATHEMATICS

LEARNING AT FOXFORD

Here at Foxford we aim to provide a broad, balanced and exciting curriculum which meets the needs of all of our students, reflects national policies and prepares our students well for employment and success in an ever changing world. We believe that it is important to provide our students with the opportunity to study many different areas to give them the chance to develop their skills and find their area of special talent.

We provide a curriculum that enables students to develop excellence in a wide range of areas. This is not just in terms of examination success but also through performances and sporting achievements for example. It is important that everyone has the opportunity to achieve excellence and to be proud of their achievements. Through our curriculum provision we seek to remove as many barriers to learning as possible so that all of our students can achieve their best.

We regularly review our curriculum offer to students to make sure that it is suitable and that it matches our values as a school.

the following pages will give you an overview of the curriculum that our students follow.

“Students feel that teachers know them well...”

OFSTED

LITERACY
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OFSTED
SCIENCE

Science at Foxford is designed to engage and enthuse our students by promoting investigation and curiosity in the world around us. Students are taught Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics providing a wide and varied knowledge and understanding of Science.

Science aims to provide engaging and exciting lessons set within a curriculum that enables all students to become investigative and curious learners. We aim to develop our learners into confident young scientists with an enthusiasm for investigation that enables them to make progress in understanding and achievement within Science.

The science curriculum offers the opportunity for students to gain the skills that enable them to question, investigate and develop enquiring minds. Experienced and specialised staff within the faculty aim to provide a curriculum that meets the needs of all students. With purpose-built laboratories and well-resourced practical supplies and equipment, Science at Foxford is an exciting and enthralling experience.

STEM Club, Science Week, visiting scientists, Activities Science provides students with a wealth and variety of experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. Throughout lessons students are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities including practical investigation, role play, group discussion, debates and presentations. Outside of the classroom students experience areas of the school they may otherwise not come into contact with, for example the community garden. Extra-curricular activities that Science provide include STEM Club, Science Week, visiting scientists, activities and revision workshops giving students a wealth and variety of experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. Trips are also an important feature of the Science Faculty and we endeavour to offer the most appropriate opportunities for the students and the curriculum we deliver.

CREATIVE ARTS

In Creative Arts there are a wide range of subjects that have their own skills and tradition but also share common ground since they are all concerned with engaging young people in the acts of making, creating, problem solving, responding, appraisal and evaluating.

The Creative Arts faculty is a high energy and stimulating environment that has high expectations of all students, providing opportunities to develop their skills and talents and continually celebrates their success throughout the year.

The Arts helps students develop their skills in preparation for a potential career in the Creative Industries and a variety of transferable skills that are recognised as vital in the work place:
- Developing creativity and independent thought
- Learning to express themselves
- Understanding and celebrating different cultures
- Developing their social, emotional and intellectual well-being

The Arts aim to develop excellence in young people by engaging them in learning and increasing self-esteem. We aim to provide all of our students with an Arts entitlement so they have the opportunity to experience Art and Design, Dance, Drama and Music. The skills that students develop in these areas will be built upon in Key Stage Four when students can specialise in visual or performing arts.

HUMANITIES

Humanities plays a major role in preparing students to take their place as citizens in the world into which they will move upon leaving school. We aim to develop students’ understanding of the current world around them, how it may change and develop and where it came from. As a faculty we offer a wide range of subjects based upon a foundation of History, Geography, Religious education and Citizenship in Key Stage Three.

HISTORY

History encourages us to understand our past in order to make sense of our present. We can learn to challenge the mistakes of the past, be proud of historical achievements and know how the world has come to be what it is today.

Our aims in History at Foxford are to place periods of time in chronological order, to think critically, to evaluate different aspects of the past, to analyse sources and understand and explain change, causes, consequence and the interpretation of events – whilst enjoying the fantastic stories and anecdotes of the past!

GEOGRAPHY

Geography is the study of Earth’s landscapes, peoples, places and environments. It is, quite simply, about the world in which we live.

Geography at Foxford aims to look at:
- The places and communities in which we live
- Natural environments and how we may impact on them
- How and why the world is changing, globally and locally

Topics studied include a range of human and physical geographical topics such as My Space, Volcanoes, Extreme Weather, Brazil, Rainforests, Development and Climate change.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The MFL Faculty at Foxford aims to give all students the opportunity to develop their language skills.

Languages are key to developing pupils’ key skills for work, including communicating with others, listening and presenting. Spanish is taught at school and we are committed to developing the skills students have in their home languages too and provide the opportunity for individuals to be entered for GCSE examinations in these subjects.

We use a range of resources in school and set a range of home learning tasks. Students are given the opportunity to communicate with real speakers day to day with our Foreign Language Assistant and we have a lunchtime club for Spanish which looks at aspects of Spanish Culture and Language.

RECAPITALIZATION

“...WHAT I LIKE ABOUT FOXFORD IS THAT THE TEACHERS ARE… THEY ENHANCE THE STUDENTS TO BE MORE CONFIDENT AND MORE SUCCESSFUL IN THE FUTURE…”

10 Y7 Parent

RECOMMENDATION

“I’M REALLY PLEASED WITH HOW MY SON HAS SETTLED IN TO FOXFORD. HE COMES HOME FULL OF ENTHUSiasm.”

Y7 Parent

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Within Religious education we encourage students to develop their sense of identity and belonging. It enables them to flourish individually within their communities and as citizens in a pluralistic society and global community.

We believe that Religious education has an important role in preparing students for adult life, employment and lifelong learning.

It enables students to develop respect for and sensitivity to others, in particular those whose faiths and beliefs are different from their own.

ICT

ICT has an important role to help students to understand our rapidly changing world. While studying ICT at Foxford students develop their general skills using common software and use more specialist software to develop their skills in areas such as website programming.

Our aim is to equip students with the ICT skills necessary to achieve their potential in a workplace that is increasingly reliant on new technology.

A significant amount of time is dedicated to discussing online safety and security to make our students independent and safe users of ICT.

TECHNOLOGY

In Technology students engage in tasks of designing and making products, using a variety of materials. They use ICT to model, design, make and present their work in Resistant Materials, Graphics, Electronics, Textiles, Catering and Food.

Within Technology our students learn to apply their skills in a creative and critical way in a variety of practical situations.

As a highly experienced and knowledgeable team of staff, we have developed and are continually evaluating a curriculum that provides our students with opportunities to learn and creatively develop practical and technological skills. A broad range of opportunities are provided for students to work within stimulating contexts as individuals or as members of a team.

WELLBEING

The Physical Education Faculty at Foxford is a vibrant and successful department which offers a broad range of activities and experiences as students progress through the school.

Our PE curriculum is designed to give students a balanced experience in a range of sports that help to develop physical skills, mental capacity and healthy, active lifestyles. They are also encouraged to undertake different roles such as performer, coach and official to further their understanding.

Foxford has very good PE facilities which include an extensive playing field, tennis courts, sports hall, gym, fitness room and swimming pool.

In years 10 and 11, students have the opportunity to further their studies in the subject area with PE and Health & Social Care both examination options at Key Stage 4.
WELCOME TO POST-16

Our Sixth Form is a thriving, effective and successful part of the school. The majority of our Year 11 students continue with their education at Post 16 and most of these remain in our Sixth Form. They are attracted by the community spirit, the care, guidance and support and the high success rates of our students.

The Sixth Form is a vibrant and friendly community of students where high expectations, ambition and a ‘can do’ attitude are important. We offer a range of A Level subjects as well as BTEC Level 3 courses. We are part of the City Federation which means students can study other subjects at nearby Sixth Forms. The Sixth Form has its own purpose built up-to-date centre with a large common room, its own kitchen and adjoining computer based study area. The large school library is also accessible for Post 16 students.

The Enrichment Programme (considered outstanding by Ofsted) allows students to develop many personal skills essential for their future careers and university education. For example: First Aid, Human Rights, Duke of Edinburgh and many others. Students have access to many opportunities to develop themselves through placements, work experience and shadowing. Also a four day residential visit to Aberystwyth University ‘kick starts’ the university application process and provides a valuable experience so that students understand the demands of university life.

"Learning and progress in the sixth form are good as a result of the level of individual challenge that teachers provide to students."

Ofsted
Why not visit us?