PROSPECTUS

BEING AMBITIOUS
BEING COLLABORATIVE
BEING HAPPY
HAVING INTEGRITY
SHOWING ENDURANCE
HAVING VERSATILITY
ALL OF WHICH LEAD TO EXCELLENCE
A C H I E V E

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE

LIFE AFTER FURZE PLATT

Just some of the destinations of our students ...

Army – Bath Spa University – Bray Studios - Birmingham City University – BG Group - Bournemouth University – Boots - University of Bath – Bullitt Group - University of Birmingham – British Airways - University of Bristol – Be Beautiful - Brunel University – Buckinghamshire New University – Cisco Systems - University of Cambridge - Cardiff University – Centrica plc - University of Cumbria – Dimensions - University of Derby – Environment Agency - University of East Anglia - GWR - University of Exeter – Fortinet - Falmouth University - Ferguson plc - University of Football Business – Iqvia - University of Hertfordshire – Hanson Cement - University of Hull – Hibu - Iver Make-Up Academy - University of Kent – Jacobs -Lancaster University – Leon - Liverpool John Moores University - Lloyds Pharmacy – London School of Economics – MoD - Loughborough University - M&S – University of Leeds – Mars UK - University of Lincoln – Morrisons - University of Liverpool – Next - Nottingham Trent University – Microsoft - University of Nottingham - NHS – University of Oxford - Oxford Brookes University – Pinewood Studios - Plymouth University – PepsiCo - University of Portsmouth –Reading College - Royal Navy - Royal Holloway, University of London – Reading FC - University of Roehampton – Starbucks - Swansea University – Specsavers - University of Sheffield–Sainsburys - University of Southampton–Thames Water–University of Surrey - Media Apprenticeship - University of Warwick – Thames Valley Police - University West of England – Vodafone - University of Westminster – Waitrose - University of Winchester – Zed Media - University of York.

A TEAM DEDICATED TO HELPING OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE

Whether you and your child are about to decide which secondary school to choose or that is a decision that is a year or two away, I hope that this prospectus will answer many of your questions and help clarify your thinking.

In the five or seven years that students are with us, we aim to give them the broadest preparation for life in a diverse and rapidly changing world. As a big school we can support this with a breadth and depth of subjects, facilities and activities. This is made possible by a large staff, all experts in their field, with an above average number focused on pastoral and support work.

Yet ever conscious of the individual needs and wellbeing of every pupil, our Tutoring and House system ensures that all feel part of small communities. We underpin this by students and staff seeking to live our ACHIEVE values. Values, I am confident, that help set our young people apart as they mature.

We are an extremely high-achieving, inclusive and comprehensive school. Our students are ambitious to achieve academically and beyond the classroom with the versatility and endurance to learn new skills and knowledge.

As importantly, our students are also ambitious to develop themselves as people. They have integrity and collaborate with each other within and beyond lessons.

We believe that all students should have the opportunity to try as much as possible as they seek to find the skills, loves and interests that make them superb employers and employees, fascinating people, loyal friends and great company.

So, thank you for your interest in Furze Platt Senior School. I hope that my brief introduction will give you a feel of how we at Furze Platt Senior School seek to prepare young people for a successful and fulfilled life.

I hope what follows will help you and your child make the right choice. Do please join one of our tours or visit us at our Open Evening. We would love to welcome you to our great site and answer all your questions so you can see for yourself how we ACHIEVE.

I look forward to welcoming you to Furze Platt.

Dr Andrew Morrison

Headteacher

'PARENTS AND GUARDIANS SPEAK ENTHUSIASTICALLY ABOUT THE SCHOOL. THEY VALUE THE SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.'

-OFSTED 2021

‘PUPILS ARE FRIENDLY, COURTEOUS AND POLITE. THEY SAY THAT THEY ARE HAPPY AND THAT THEY FEEL SAFE.’

-OFSTED 2021

‘YOUNGER PUPILS WELCOME THE SUPPORT OFFERED BY SIXTH-FORM STUDENTS FOR THEIR WELFARE AND WELL-BEING.’

-OFSTED 2021

‘GOVERNORS AND LEADERS ARE AMBITIOUS FOR WHAT PUPILS CAN ACHIEVE ACADEMICALLY AND HOW THEY CAN DEVELOP PERSONALLY.’

-OFSTED 2021

SUPPORT & CARE AT FURZE PLATT

OUR EXPANSIVE SCHOOL GROUNDS PROVIDE PLENTY OF GR EEN SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO ENJOY DURING BREAKTIMES.

Our students ACHIEVE more and better because of the support and care that surrounds them. Pastoral support at Furze Platt is based around our Tutoring system. All students and staff have a dedicated Tutor, Head of Progress and Pastoral Manager. This helps break our school into smaller groups where staff and students feel they belong and are supported.

Our House system creates identity and community helping students from all years get to know, help and care for each other.

Students participate in regular House challenges, from rowing to fitness, cooking to singing, spelling bees to countdown. These encourage students to develop leadership and interpersonal skills.

Core to our pastoral approach is our focus on good behaviour, building strong relationships and respect for fellow students, staff and all members of our community.

This is a kind and caring school. We do everything we can to ease transition from primary to secondary school. We meet Year 6 students and their teachers in their primary schools and we have transition days in July, along with an induction day in September.

IN THE CLASSROOM

Our curriculum is ambitious and broad to give students opportunities to develop both subject knowledge and interpersonal skills such as teamwork and communication. We understand teaching is about encouraging the desire to learn and seek new challenges within the classroom.

We are a fully inclusive comprehensive school with experienced teachers who plan lessons for students to enjoy, learn and flourish. Our teachers are subject specialists with knowledge and enthusiasm ensuring learning is interesting, current and varied using a wide range of teaching strategies to engage all students.

Teachers are experienced in differentiating work for students within their classroom setting, and making certain each student makes progress and feels supported in their learning. Our SEND students benefit from support provided by experienced teaching assistants to further help progress.

Teachers understand that good behaviour is key for good learning, and ensure positive behaviour is recognised within the classroom via a reward point system.

'TEACHERS' SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE IS PARTICULARLY STRONG..THE CURRICULUM IS BROAD AND PERSONALISED. IT IS DESIGNED WELL TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL PUPILS.'

-OFSTED 2021

Each term there is a Celebration Event for the students who show an exceptional attitude to learning, we believe this is something that should be celebrated.

The positive respectful relationship that teachers build with students is part of our school ethos and present in every classroom. We recognise that things can go wrong, and we use a restorative approach to ensure the teacher/student can find a positive way forwards for learning.

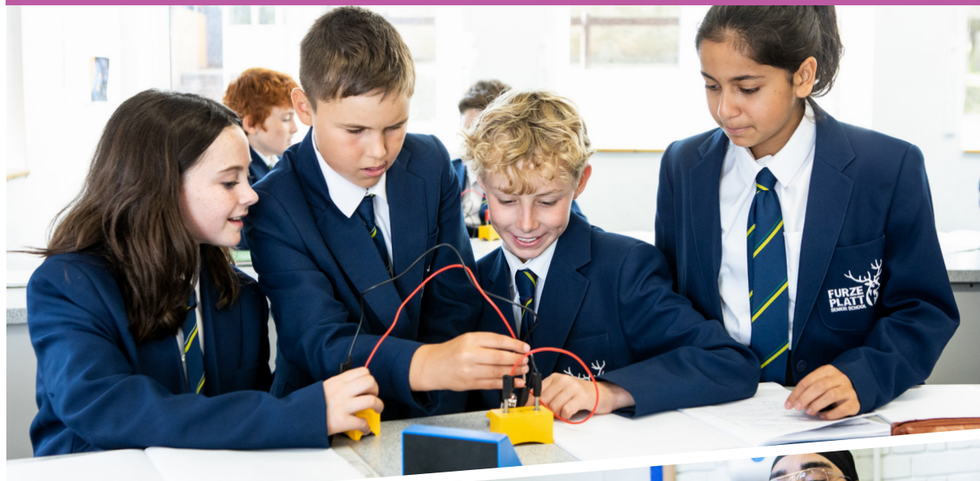
Students' home learning is through an app from Class Charts which can be accessed by parents and students.

KS3: YEARS 7, 8 & 9	KS4: YEARS 10 & 11	
A BROAD SPECTRUM OF CORE SUBJECTS	CORE SUBJECTS	& OPTIONAL SUBJECTS
Art & Design	Art & Design	
	Photography	
Computing & ICT	Computer Science	
	Digital Media	
Drama	Drama	
English	English Language	
	English Literature	
Food & Nutrition	Food Preparation & Nutrition	
French or German	French	
	German	
Spanish	Spanish	
Geography	Geography	
History	History	
Mathematics	Mathematics	
	Statistics	
Music	Music	
P.S.H.E./ Citizenship	P.S.H.E./ Citizenship	
Physical Education	Physical Education	
	Health & Fitness	
	Dance	
Philosophy & Religion	Religious Studies	
Science	Biology	
	Chemistry	
	Physics	
Technology	Product Design	
	Construction	
	Textiles Design	
	Business	
	Child Development	
	Travel & Tourism	

ALL OUR YEAR 7 STUDENTS LEA RN SPANISH WITH EITHER FRENCH OR GERMAN AS A SEC OND LANGUAGE.

WE HAVE EXCELLENT IT RESOU RCES WHICH SUPPORT LEARNING. OUR LAP TOPS FOR LEARNING PROGRAMME MEANS YEAR 7 STUDENTS HAVE THEIR OWN LAPTOP.

OUR TEACHERS USE PRACTICAL EXPERIMENTS TO ENGAGE STUDENTS AND HELP THEM UNDERSTAND CHALLENGING IDEAS.



TEACHERS ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO DEVELOP THE CONFIDENCE TO ARTCULATE THEIR OPINIONS.

‘MY TIME AT FURZE PLATT HAS IMPACTED AND SHAPED MY LIFE BEING A BIG REASON FOR MY SUCCESSES AND THE PERSON I AM TODAY.’

-AMY

‘I HAVE GREAT MEMORIES OF DEDICATED TEACHERS AND GOOD FACILITIES.’

-HUSSAN

‘BRILLIANT LESSONS, HUGE SUPPORT NETWORK AND A LOVELY NEW COMMON ROOM!’

-EVIE

OUR FURZE PLATT VALUES

The foundations of our ACHIEVE ethos are Furze Platt’s passionate staff, who delight in supporting, challenging and helping students as they grow into fantastic young adults. It is they who create the belief that all can succeed regardless of ability; it is they who ensure strong relationships and unrivalled pastoral care; it is they who have a range of passions and skills that stretch way beyond the classroom; it is they who enable a happy, positive environment in which students truly thrive.

‘SOME OF THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF MY LIFE...THE BEST SCHOOL I EVER WENT TO!’

-IBRAHIM

‘FANTASTIC TEACHERS AND A GREAT SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR STUDENTS. THE SCHOOL OFFERED MANY OPPORTUNITIES, BOTH IN AND OUT OF FURZE PLATT, ACADEMIC AND OTHERWISE.’

-ESHA

‘MY PHYSICS TEACHER FROM YEAR 7-8 SHOWED ME THAT SCIENCE WAS COOL!’

-CHLOE

STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN NUMEROUS DOMESTIC & FOREIGN VISITS TO DEVELOP THEIR PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES, AS WELL AS THEIR LEARNING.

'I HAVE MANY GREAT MEMORIES AT FURZE PLATT AND THOROUGHLY ENJOYED MY TIME THERE.'

-ASMAA

STUDENTS CAN CHOOSE TO FOCUS ON PERSONAL FITNESS AS WELL AS PLAY FOR ONE OF OUR NUMEROUS TEAMS.

OUR STUDENTS LEAD MANY OF OUR CHOIRS, ORCHESTRAS & BANDS.

WE ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY AND OFFER OUR STUDENTS MANY WAYS TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR TALENTS.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

For most Furze Platt students, the school day ends not at 3.15 but nearer 5pm. Each week, over 50 extra-curricular activities are on offer. These include an array of music groups, from choirs to percussion, from ukulele band to orchestras which culminate in concerts held throughout the year.

The quality of extra-curricular drama is similarly exceptional, with many after school performances for students of all years, plus the annual school musical. The school is rightly proud of its sporting success, with football, rugby, hockey and netball, athletics and tennis fixtures, while students benefit from the stunning Furze Platt Leisure Centre facilities.

Students can also attend one of the cooking and baking clubs or one of the subject-based revision classes.

The school runs a major programme of evening, day and residential trips in Britain and abroad. These include theatre visits, Geography and History fieldwork trips, and Biology and Geography research visits to Nettlecombe in Somerset. Furze Platt students also enjoy ski trips to Italy, battlefield tours to France and Belgium, language visits to France, Germany and Spain, and still more adventurous tours to Iceland, Mexico, Indonesia and Borneo.

OUR CONCERTS, PLAYS AND MUSICALS ATTRACT HUNDREDS OF VISITORS WHO WATCH HIGH QUALITY MUSIC, DRAMA AND DANCE IN OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART DRAMA STUDIO AND THEATRE.

STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO USE THE FURZE PLATT LEISURE CENTRE BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL AS WELL AS IN LESSONS.

OUR 400 SEAT THEATRE IS A FANTASTIC ASSET FOR THE SCHOOL AND OUR COMMUNITY.

FACILITIES & RESOURCES

We know that students are more motivated and engaged in their studies when they have an excellent learning environment. Furze Platt students are fortunate to learn in high-quality facilities. This means teachers can offer even more stimulating lessons and offers students the chance to learn practically, as well as theoretically.

Our great facilities include: a purpose-built Maths block, state of the art Drama theatre and adjoining rehearsal studio, professional standard, floodlit Astroturf, three new, floodlit tennis / netball courts, and our enviable Furze Platt Leisure Centre, Sixth Form and the Music department with professional-standard recording studio. In recent years we have added a new English department along with state-of-the-art Science laboratories and a new Theatre which stages performances and events for audience of over four hundred.

COLLABORATION IS ONE OF OUR CORE VALUES, EVIDENT IN LESSONS, ACTIVITIES & THE MANY SPOR TS IN WHICH STUDENTS CAN REPRESENT THE SCHOOL.

OUR MODERN ENGLISH & SCIENCE BLOCK OFFERS STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO LEARN IN DYNAMIC SPACES

'THE CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED AT FURZE PLATT ENCOURAGED ME TO ASPIRE TO OXBRIDGE AND RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES.'

-JOSHUA

STUDENTS AND STAFF FORGE RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH PARTICIPATING IN A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES.

‘PUPILS ARE ABLE TO PURSUE THEIR NEXT STEPS WITH CONFIDENCE BECAUSE CAREERS INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ARE WELL MATCHED TO THE NEEDS, INTERESTS AND ABILITIES OF PUPILS’

-OFSTED

THE FURZE PLATT COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

We measure our success through the diversity of post school destinations from admission to leading universities, securing apprenticeships, starting a business to successfully gaining an entry-level position in the public services.

We are exceptionally proud of our students. By achieving their excellence, our students embody our ACHIEVE values. The young adults who leave us at 16 or 18 are highly skilled, capable, confident young people ready to embark on the next stage of their life.

The school has a comprehensive and targeted support system to ensure all understand and can realise their dreams, career interviews, work experience in the Sixth Form, and a Careers and Higher Education Fair, attended by 30 universities and 60 businesses.

STUDENTS OF ALL AGES HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE LEADERSHIP ROLES THAT DEVELOP PERSONAL SKILLS AND PREPARE THEM FOR LIFE BEYOND SCHOOL.

Our alumni are an inspiration to our current students.

Recent students include:

Sam: Cover presenter at BBC Radio 1

Lisa: Agency Account Strategist, Google Customer Solutions; previously University of Oxford graduate, winner of College Prize for Experimental Psychology

David: Executive Director at West Suffolk College

Catrin: PCGE student at the University of Cambridge; previously Deputy Editor of Redbrick, University of Birmingham’s newspaper

Bob: Chief Technology Officer EMEA

Noel: Mechanical Engineer & Lecturer

Alan: Commercial Director for Purition

Isabella: Small Business Owner ‘Four Legged Amigos’

Isobelle: Media Executive at Global with television industry experience

Olivia: Award winning student of Fashion, Marketing and Branding at Nottingham Trent University

Sterling: MPhil Finance and Economics student at the University of Cambridge

Debbie: Deputy Head of Primary School in London

Olivia: Therapeutic Radiographer

Simon: Social Media Producer, Sky Sports F1

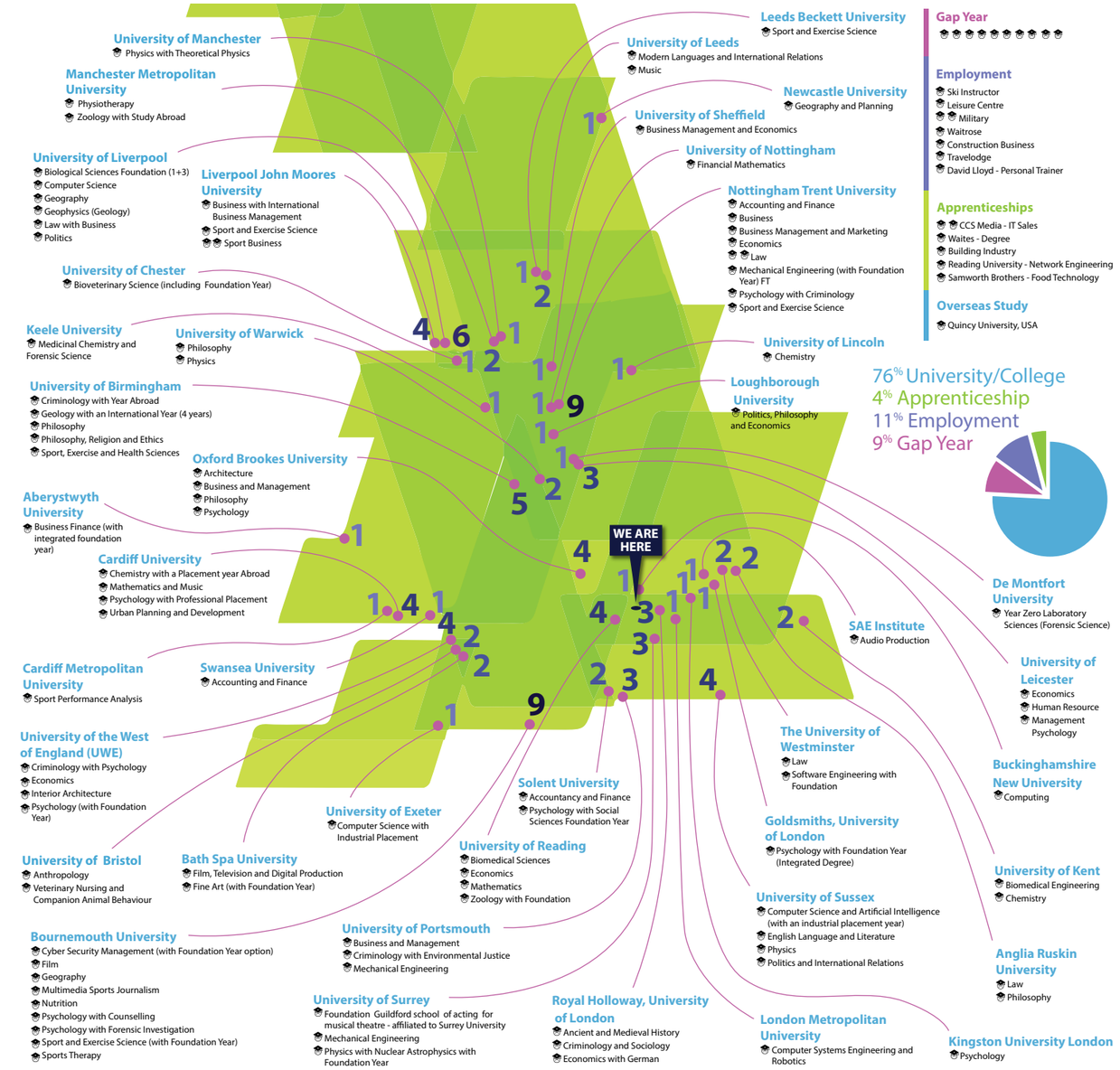
Henry: Operations Director, REDPILL London (winner ‘Influencer Marketing Agency 2021’)

Louise: Founder, Gosh Service Design

Janine: Senior Digital Marketing Manager at Guide Dogs UK

Matt: Recently opened a florist/coffee shop in Dorset.

SIXTH FORM UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2022



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information can be found on our website www.furzeplatt.com under the 'Year 7 Parents' section. Here you will find information on what our students study, extra-curricular activities, timings of the school, uniform and much more.

CONTACT US

Furze Platt Senior School, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ

01628 625308

office@furzeplatt.com

www.furzeplatt.com

HOW TO FIND US

PREPARING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL