



# FOREST SCHOOL

## 11+ Sport Scholarships at Forest School

### Frequently asked questions

#### **How do I register?**

When you register your interest in Forest school there is a box to tick on the form to indicate that you would like your child to be considered for a sport scholarship. You will then be contacted by the Director of Sport giving you information about the assessment day that takes place in December.

#### **Who is assessed?**

Although we say county level or above, we are fully aware that not all sports men and women have access to those pathways and that some sports lend themselves to county level more than others so we, therefore, assess everyone who applies for a sport scholarship individually.

#### **What does the assessment involve?**

You will be contacted by the Admissions Office and asked to choose two sports to be assessed on the assessment day. Currently the options to choose from are: Football, Cricket, Swimming and Hockey for boys, Football, Cricket, Netball, Hockey and Swimming for girls.

On the day of the assessment, all candidates will be assessed in their two sports PLUS a third activity which will be confirmed on the day.

All candidates will be fitness tested (looking at speed, strength, stamina, and power). This fitness testing provides a strong indication of athletic talent and athletic potential and those candidates who specialise in track and field should perform well in this area. Athletics is a major sport at Forest but assessing in December is difficult given the variable weather conditions.

#### **What if my child excels in a sport that you do not assess?**

We assess pupils in the major sports played at Forest School. These are the sports that pupils are playing week in week out against other Schools and are therefore representing the School.

We will still consider pupils who excel in other areas as they often have the potential to transfer the skills to one or two of our major sports. However, everything being equal, it is likely that we would look more favourably on someone who plays a major sport at Forest than someone who does not.

#### **When does the assessment take place?**

All candidates will be invited to an assessment day in December. Shortlisted assessments will take place in January. Scholarships are awarded based on the online application combined with performance on the assessment day.

The entrance assessments are the key determinant as to whether your child will be offered a place and, therefore, regardless of their sporting ability, if it is clear that Forest School is not the right School academically, a place will not be offered.

**I'm not sure whether my son/daughter is good enough?** (*They've never played County level*).

If you are in any doubt, you should apply. Above all else, the candidate will have a fun day of playing sport and meeting new people. They will learn more about Forest School which should help in the difficult decision-making process when it comes to selecting your secondary School.

**How many scholarships are there?**

There is not a set number of scholarships. There is a set amount of funds that can be allocated to scholarships which is at Forest School's discretion. The most common awards are between 5-20%. The number of scholarships awarded varies each year and is dependent on the standard of the cohort being considered for all scholarships.

**What is the Elite Player Programme (EPP)? Can my child be included?**

The EPP is a personalised programme offering professional athletic coaching and support for the most talented sports pupils at Forest in order to prepare them for Elite level sport. Membership to the EPP is extremely prestigious and upon accepting an EPP place you will be expected to attend the 2 sessions before school each week. Following the sport scholarship assessments, all Sports Scholars are automatically included and a further small number of pupils may be invited to join the EPP each year by the Director of Sport.

**What if my child has a large number of sporting commitments outside of School?**

(*Academy, National Representation etc*).

We have several pupils at Forest who are contracted to sports academies or who represent the School at national/international level. The Director of Sport/Head of Sport will work closely with the parent(s) and the clubs to ensure we strike a balance between School representation and all other commitments. In nearly all cases, a mutually agreeable solution is found.

**What is required of a sports scholar?**

All of our sports scholars are Forest School scholars and are expected to model the behaviour of that of a scholar at all times. We would expect our sport scholars to represent the School each term in the major sports, even if it is not one of their strongest. For example, a scholar who excels in netball, playing in the C team for hockey demonstrates a number of qualities and characteristics that we would expect all of our pupils to follow. As a sports scholar, they are also expected to attend weekly Strength and Conditioning sessions to help them stay injury free.

**When will we find out if we have been successful?**

All offer letters are sent out in February. The letter informing you that you have a place at Forest School will indicate whether your place comes with a scholarship award for Sport.

**If you require any further information, please contact**

Admissions Team

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