

Forrester NEWS

Together we...

RESPECT

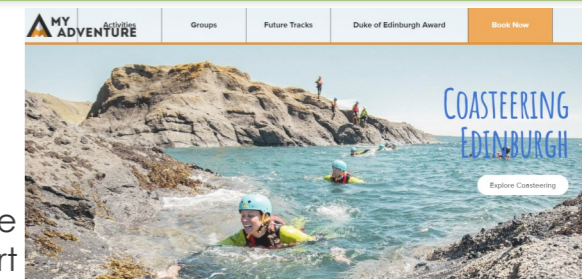
BELIEVE

ACHIEVE

Head Teacher update:

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

I would like to start by thanking everyone for the warm welcome I have received during my short tenure as Acting Head Teacher at Forrester High School. The early focus has been ensuring expectations are high and staff young people recognise the role they play in continually making improvements in the school. We have recently introduced new partners to our community. We would like to welcome My Adventure, Gold and Gray Soccer Academy, Princes Trust Achieve and EH5 Tutoring to our



community. Each partnership will provide positive opportunities and experiences for the young people at Forrester High School.



In September of this year the school participated in a council led Supported Self-evaluation inspection. I'm delighted to share that we received very positive feedback across the key themes. This has given us a clear focus on areas of improvement and allowed us to consider how to prepare for a full Education Scotland Inspection visit.

HMIE to inspect Forrester during the week of the 15th January 2024.

HM Inspectors from Education Scotland will be visiting us to conduct an inspection during the week commencing the 15th January 2024. You can find out more about inspection from the [Inspection and review documentation](#) pages of Education Scotland's website.

As part of the inspection, Inspectors gather the views of stakeholders via an online survey which is available from [Parents / Carers \(Secondary\)](#)

I would like to encourage you to complete the survey. Inspectors will also be meeting with groups of parents during the inspection, so to be part of that discussion you should complete the survey with additional links provided to indicate your interest in taking part.

An email and text have been sent to allow for further access to questionnaires.



Together we RESPECT—CONGRATULATIONS MR RAFFERTY!

THE FORTH BEST TEACHER AWARD

WINNER – MR STEPHEN RAFFERTY, FORRESTER HIGH SCHOOL

Mr Stephen Rafferty from Forrester High School is a truly inspirational leader.

After the sudden passing of a pupil at the school, head teacher Mr Rafferty has gone above and beyond in supporting the wider school and staff who were affected by the sudden bereavement. Mr Rafferty opened the school so that pupils had access to counsellors, teachers support. He met pupils at the funeral home after they had been to visit and he even read a poem as tribute at An-



draws funeral. Mr Rafferty so truly deserves this award for what he has done to support and guide the children and staff at Forrester High, through what has been a very tough and challenging time.



LGBT Youth Scotland Silver Charter Award

In October we were awarded the LGBT Silver Charter Award by LGBT Youth Scotland. This award recognises all the hard work that goes on in Forrester to make our school the most inclusive learning environment for all of our young people. A massive thank you is due to all the staff and young people. A lot of our work was highlighted as exemplary and sector leading, such as – our commemorative day celebrations and our pupil voice/consultation. This is a big step in our ongoing journey to make sure that all learners, regardless of gender and identity, have a home here at Forries where they feel safe, included and valued.



Together we ACHIEVE



The Scholar's Programme

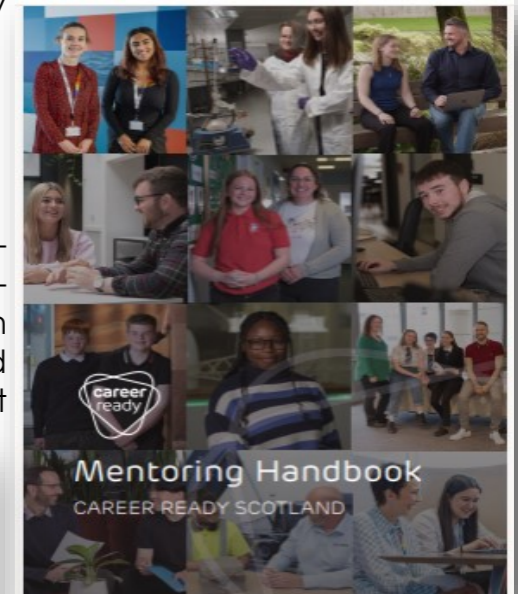
We currently have fifteen selected pupils who will be starting 'The Scholar's Programme' in January 2024. The Scholar's Programme is an opportunity for pupils aged 8 – 18 years old to work alongside a PhD researcher in school and to learn about a range of topics that very few people get the opportunity to learn about. Our students will work closely with them and get to experience university-style learning. They will develop a range of skills from this opportunity, building on their knowledge that will help support them for when the time comes to apply to university.

Employability Award/Work Experience

We currently have a total of sixteen pupils who are successfully working towards achieving their employability award whilst also completing a work placement each Friday. So far, each pupil has been praised individually for their efforts during their placement and they are enjoying learning life skills in a field that they are passionate about pursuing once they leave school.

Career Ready

Six S6 pupils are now in year 2 of the Career Ready Programme and have celebrated the success of their summer internships with an in-school meeting and taken part in two masterclasses on the topics of interviews and career pathways. Teigan is also featured on the front



cover of the new Career Ready Handbook.

We also have six S5 pupils who have started their Career Ready journey by attending their first masterclass on Getting to Know the Programme and the launch event, where they met their mentors for the first time.

Together we RESPECT—MENTOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION

We have a fantastic team of senior mentors for MVP this year, 25 students in S5/6 completed the 2 day course. We had a great experience working with such insightful and committed young people. They engaged so positively with some really challenging content and I'm sure they will be great assets to the school in their role as MVP mentors.



Together we BELIEVE—GREASE 2024 SCHOOL SHOW

Our school show 'Grease!' has finally been cast and rehearsals have started. There was a really high standard at the auditions which made our decision exceptionally difficult, but we finally made our decisions and have a strong principal cast. Our chorus members are working well too. Rehearsals take place every Wednesday at 1pm in Music 1 (Miss Sheail's room) and new members are always welcome! The show is due to be performed in June 2024 and more details will be published in due course.



Supported Study Timetable:

With prelims around the corner we would like to make parents and carers aware of the available Study Support Timetable for young people at Forrester High School.



Some top tips :

Getting started with study – the first thing to do is plan when you are going to study, what you are going to study and how you will check whether your study has been effective (**Self-evaluation or self-assessment**). Be systematic and **keep a record of your study** so that you cover all topics.

Use self-evaluation tools (e.g. **Traffic Lights**) to identify the areas you need to work on – although it's tempting, don't spend too long on the topics you are already good at.

Use **mind maps** to create visual pathways of how topics are linked within a subject.

Use **flashcards** to help learn important facts and terminology.

SUPPORTED STUDY TIMETABLE

DAY	SUBJECT	TIMES
MONDAY	BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY – Mrs Bruce	LUNCHTIME
	MATHS – Mrs Walker	3.35 – 4.15PM
	MATHS – Miss Burr	3.35 – 4.15PM
	DRAMA – Miss Hood/Miss Robertson	3.40 – 4.30PM
	BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY – Mr Gray	3.35 – 4.30PM
	SPANISH – Ms Hastings	3.35-4.30PM
TUESDAY	PE – Ms Paton	LUNCHTIME
	MATHS – Mrs Walker	LUNCHTIME
	COMPUTING – Miss Stevenson (Higher & Nat 5)	LUNCHTIME
	HISTORY – Ms Serifi	LUNCHTIME
	MATHS – Mrs Batten	3.35 – 4.15PM
	BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY – Mr Gray	3.35 – 4.30PM
	PHYSICS – Mr Reid	3.35 – 4.30PM
	HISTORY – Mrs Crawford	3.35PM START
	MODERN STUDIES – Mr McNeill, Mr McKean, Mr Wright	3.35PM START
	GRAPHIC COMM – Mr Carter	3.35-4.30PM
DANCE – Ms Paton	3.35PM START	
WEDNESDAY	MATHS – Mr Mackie	LUNCHTIME
	ADMIN & IT – Mr Wright (Higher)	LUNCHTIME
	ADMIN & IT – Mr McKeever (Nat 5)	LUNCHTIME
	BUSINESS MANAGEMENT – Mr Wright/Mr McKeever	LUNCHTIME
	CHEMISTRY – Mrs McIntosh	LUNCHTIME
	BIOLOGY – Miss Turek	LUNCHTIME
	ACCOUNTS – Ms Stewart	3.35PM START
	ADMIN & IT – Mrs Carnegie	3.35PM START
	BUSINESS – Mrs Carnegie	3.35PM START
	COMPUTING – Mr Lam (Nat 5)	3.35 – 4.30PM
	CHEMISTRY – Mr Gray	3.35 – 4.30PM
	BIOLOGY – Miss Robertson	3.35 – 4.30PM
	PHYSICS – Mr Romano	3.35 – 4.35PM
	ENGLISH – various teachers	3.35PM START
THURSDAY	MATHS – Ms Price	LUNCHTIME
	ART – Ms Bell (Senior Pupils)	LUNCHTIME
	GEOGRAPHY – Mr Wright/Mr McKean	LUNCHTIME
	BIOLOGY – Miss Burns	3.35 – 4.30PM
	BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY – Mr Gray	3.35 – 4.30PM
	HISTORY – Miss Crawford	3.35 – 4.30PM
FRIDAY	BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY – Mr Gray	12.15PM START

Together we ACHIEVE—WELL DONE !

Coerver National Squad (Nordic Cup 2023)

Forrester 2nd Year pupil, Isla Rew, along with Dylan Jack, one of our 1st years, were selected to compete in the **Coerver Cup** in Sweden. They were selected from the 4200 players attending their programmes across Scotland. The event took place in Helsingborg, Sweden. All round a very successful tournament.