



Pre-Secondary Boarding Experience Further Details

The aim of our Headfort Pre-Secondary Boarding Experience is to equip students with the competencies they need to enter, Form 1 or 2 or Years 8 or 9, in Secondary/ High Schools or for students who are interested in attending a boarding school in the future. It's ideal for overseas students, aged 11 to 13, who are interested in studying in Ireland for one academic year and achieve internationally recognised qualifications such as Cambridge First for Schools and for those wishing to experience the rich diversity of life at Ireland's leading Prep boarding school.

Route 1: Advanced English Language Learners

Headfort offers two different routes as part of our Pre-Secondary programme. Route 1 is open to students who have achieved a B2 level or above at the time of enrolment. Within this programme the students partake in a full curriculum of English, Maths, Science, History, Spanish or French, Latin, Geography and Art with additional weekly EAL lessons taught by a specialist EAL teacher. Students will take the Cambridge School First Exam.

Route 2: New English Language Learners

Route 2 of our programme is open to students at B1 or below, this programme is perfect for those who are new to the English language and wish to be immersed in the language in preparation for the next stage of their education. These students will have daily EAL lessons taught by a specialist EAL teacher and will have the opportunity to fully actively participate in the language through drama lessons, debating and public speaking in preparation for the Cambridge First Exam. Students will also study Business, Maths, Science, French or Spanish, History and Geography.

Route 1 and 2: What does the course entail?

Both streams of our programme allow the students to experience life at Headfort. Students will attend daily games sessions where they will have specialist coaches for Rugby, Hockey, Athletics and Cricket. They will develop a sense of community and comradery by joining sports teams for Headfort, playing against other schools and clubs in Ireland. The students will have the opportunity to go on trips every weekend allowing them to soak up the Irish culture and acquaint them to Western life.

Students participating in our Pre-Secondary Boarding experience will have the opportunity to live in small dormitories with a limited number of students. They will have access to our Boarding Preparation sessions where our friendly Irish boarding hosts will teach them invaluable life skills, how to make new friends, the importance of extracurricular activities, how to study for an exam, how to conduct themselves in public whilst on trips and how to



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have a successful boarding experience as well as countless other lessons that will stand by them throughout their time in education. Headfort has an incredible 60 acres of beautiful grounds where children have the opportunity to explore and mix with other pupils across the school in order to make life-long friendships whilst enhancing their language skills.

We are also pleased to announce that we have linked up with Headfort Golf course to offer an elite coaching programme with the course professionals. Lessons will include use of their new golf driving range and practice on their two championship courses. Details are available upon request. The golf course site can be found here: <https://www.headfortgolfclub.ie/>

Why choose Headfort?

Headfort school is situated only one hour from Dublin airport making it incredibly accessible. Headfort has 60 acres of beautiful parkland to allow the students to explore and immerse themselves in the natural beauty that Ireland has to offer. We have a team of specialist teachers and are passionate about teaching their subject to their students. Headfort has a Science lab where students can engage in experiments while learning Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There is a dedicated Art room where the students can showcase their talents and creativity. History of Art is incorporated into the lessons. Headfort has a theatre where students can practise performing arts and develop their confidence speaking English during preparation for our end of term performances. We offer an extensive Music department that includes Piano, Guitar, Singing and Drum lessons as well as Music theory being taught as part of their curriculum. Headfort students can partake in our School Choir who recently placed third in the Cork International Choral Festival. While studying at Headfort, students take part in daily games sessions where they can learn the skills required to play Rugby, Hockey and Cricket, which are the sports most frequently played with the UK and Irish Private Secondary Schools. Headfort has endless opportunities on offer for students and is an experience that they will never forget.

Extra-Curricular Activities

There is overwhelming evidence that students who involve themselves in extra-curricular activities excel in their academic studies. We want our students to try new things, to discover and nurture talent, and to challenge themselves to go beyond their own expectations. Students are guided to develop a balanced programme to support their personal development and academic studies as well as to develop their leadership skills. The wide variety of Clubs and Societies at Headfort include Art, Carpentry, Singing, Piano, Guitar, Drums, Horse-Riding, Tennis, Chess Club, NeuroScience Club, ICT Club, Eco Club, Drama and Cooking as well as our sports leagues in Football, Rounders and Basketball. Headfort



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provides an extra-curricular activity that offers a wide variety of choices and allows every student to get involved and gain wonderful experiences.

Next Step Preparation Programme

Headfort works alongside a trusted partner- Board Schools Ireland and families in order to find and place students in a boarding school in Ireland or the UK for the next stage of their academic journey. Boarding Schools Ireland have a highly experienced team, have unparalleled knowledge and experience of boarding schools and have successfully placed students at all of the best preparatory and senior schools in Ireland and the UK. We are proud when our students gain acceptance into these prestigious schools, but our real aim is to support families in finding the correct school for each student and we know that there is an outstanding school available to suit every student's needs.

All school placements begin with an assessment of the student. In order to assess their abilities, we use a full range of academic and cognitive assessments. Following these results, we have extensive conversations with parents in order to agree on a short list of schools for the student and their family to visit. Our extensive communication between the student and their family, and the school in question will continue until acceptance at a favoured school has been secured.