

WELCOME TO LONGSANDS ACADEMY

It is my pleasure as the Principal to welcome you to Longsands Academy.

Longsands Academy, part of Astrea Academy Trust, is a successful, fully-inclusive secondary school at the heart of its community. We pride ourselves on providing an engaging and supportive environment.

Our aim is that when students leave the Academy they are equipped with everything they need to reach their potential and become happy, successful, resilient adults and positive contributors in society. Our talented and committed body of staff is driven by a relentless desire to ensure that our core purpose is a lived reality during each students' time at Longsands Academy.

The pursuit of academic excellence is at the heart of Academy life. We have high expectations of behaviour, a commitment of great standards of teaching, a knowledge-rich curriculum and enjoy strong, supportive relationships between staff, students and their parents/carers. All students, regardless of their background or personal circumstances, are encouraged to achieve their academic aspirations.

Our enrichment programmes help students understand the opportunities available to them. This further promotes an aspirational culture around student achievement, which drives a sense of purpose in class, and improved outcomes and life chances for our students.

We recognise the importance of student support, ensuring everyone has access to a committed team of professionals who work tirelessly to maintain their well-being. This ensures our students develop the confidence and resilience to make the most of their time with us.

Longsands Academy delivers academic excellence, embraces the value of enrichment, and invests in community citizenship. Through this, we deliver on our core purpose: to secure the best possible experience, learning, and outcomes for every young person for whom we have responsibility.

I look forward to a successful working partnership where we will work with you closely to ensure the very best for your child.

COLLABORATIVE WORKING AND INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

At Longsands, we are passionate about education that inspires beyond measure.



The school has high aspirations for what pupils learn.

Pupils value the knowledgeable teachers who support them to achieve well.

Our aim is that every child gets a brilliant education. We will do this by pursuing aspirational standards with tenacity and drive, and by never settling for second best and not tolerating something that does not live up to our standards. We will remove performance barriers from students.

Longsands' future success is underpinned by a strong set of shared values. These values are important because they support the vision, shape the culture, and make a statement about what we hold dear.



'Reach for the top of the tree and you may get to the first branch but reach for the stars and you'll get to the top of the tree.'

Lemn Sissay, MBE



ACADEMY AND HOME PARTNERSHIP

Parent/Carer Voice

A strong partnership between parents/carers and staff is paramount to success and achievements of students. We encourage the active involvement of parents/ carers in all aspects of Academy life in order to raise aspirations, promote ambition and applaud success at all levels. Our view is that we have to work together if we are to achieve our shared ambition of ensuring all students receive the best education and support. We encourage all parents and carers to follow our website and social media sites.

Principal and Student Bulletins

Our popular Student bulletins are shared with students every week, and the Principal Newsletter is shared with families on a regular basis. They detail the events, subject matters and areas of discussion for the coming week enabling families to truly feel part of our Longsands community.

Communicating with families

We pride ourselves in our collaborative work with parents/ carers who are encouraged to communicate with the Academy on any matters concerning them. Communication with parents/carers and other stakeholders, whether they are in person, via the telephone or email, are purposeful and professional with academic progress and wellbeing of the students at the core of all interactions.

My Child At School App

The My Child At School App is an excellent method of communication and the perfect way for parents/carers to have up to date information regarding their child(ren) at their finger tips. Features include key dates, news, access to parent consultation booking systems and payments for Academy dinners, resources and trips. Furthermore, each child's attendance, timetable, achievements and reports are directly available.

'We wanted to take the opportunity in thanking all of our daughter's teachers for the amazing support she has received since the moment she joined the Academy back in September 2021. She wouldn't have had so many achievements without the guidance and support showed by you all.'

Parent

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

At Longsands Academy, we combine our ambition for students to achieve excellent academic results with an emphasis on developing the skills to enable them to become accomplished lifelong learners. A rigorous and stretching curriculum helps students develop as independent thinkers and learners beyond their traditional lessons: it is broad, balanced and has clear progression in subject knowledge and skills.

All students have the same entitlement to the full range of the school curriculum and we are committed to making this accessible to all our students, whatever age or ability. Our very pleasing and improving GCSE results have been achieved by the commitment of all staff to maximise the attainment of Longsands students. A wide range of support strategies is provided for students of all attainment levels by our dedicated teachers. Information about academic progress is shared on a regular basis through Progress Reviews and Parent/Carer Consultations.



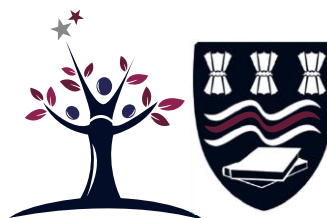
The school has ensured that the curriculum is ambitious. Many pupils successfully study English Baccalaureate subjects. There is also sufficient breadth in the curriculum to cater for pupils who wish to pursue different study pathways.

Students with Special Educational Needs are fully included in all aspects of Academy life and they are encouraged to maximise their potential, both academically and socially. We also have a successful Learning Support Team which has transformed the delivery of education to those students who have specific challenges and barriers to overcome.

Independent learning skills are developed in order to ensure students are equipped for the future challenges of university and the work place. To accompany this, we encourage employability skills and attributes to ensure all students are fully prepared for the world of work.

The majority of students then study A levels at our Longsands Sixth Form. Students achieve impressive results and many students are supported to gain places on competitive courses in the most prestigious universities in the country.





KS4: Improved Outcomes: KS4 Grades

- Holly - 8 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s
- Emma - 8 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 1 grade 7
- Lucy - 7 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 6
- Harriet - 4 grade 9s, 5 grade 8s, 1 grade 7
- Tilly - 4 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 1 grade 7
- Jai - 4 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 1 grade 6, 1 grade 5
- Skye - 2 grade 9s, 5 grade 8s, 2 grade 7s
- Jess - 3 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, 1 grade 6
- Olivia - 3 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s, 1 grade 6
- Alice - 3 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 4 grade 7s, 1 grade 6

KS5: Excellent Academic Outcomes

- (A*A*A*A*) Cambridge University - Engineering
- (A*A*A*A*) Oxford University - Maths
- (A*A*A*) Manchester University - Zoology
- (A*AAA) Birmingham University – Biomedical Science
- (AAA) Durham University – Natural Sciences
- (AAA) Sheffield University – Chemistry
- (D*D*A) York University – Computer Science
- (BBC) Florida University – Earth Sciences with an Athletics Scholarship
- (ABB) Nottingham Trent University – Civil Engineering



‘pupils
achieve well
in
examinations
and are well
prepared for
successful
future study
and/or
employment.’





VISION AND VALUES

Scholarship: We are committed to promoting a culture of academic excellence through a dedication to scholarship and a knowledge-rich curriculum, we empower our students and colleagues to pursue knowledge, and the rigorous exploration of subjects as disciplines.

Curiosity: We embrace curiosity as a driving force for exploration, innovation, and discovery. It involves an openness to learning from different perspectives, a willingness to challenge assumptions, and an eagerness to discover the unknown.

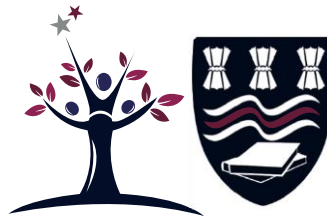
Tenacity: We value perseverance, resilience, and determination in the face of challenges. With tenacity, we encourage our students and colleagues to overcome obstacles, stay committed to their goals, and strive for excellence.

Responsibility: We uphold principles of accountability, integrity, and ethical conduct in all aspects of our work. It involves fulfilling obligations, honouring commitments, and considering the impact of one's choices on oneself and others. Through a sense of responsibility, we foster trust, reliability, and ethical leadership among our students and colleagues.

Respect: We promote a culture of respect, empathy, and inclusivity in our school community. By valuing diversity, dignity, and mutual understanding, we create a welcoming and supportive environment where everyone feels valued and respected.

“Before he started Longsands I was concerned over the level of support our son would receive from the school due to it having so many students. All I can say is that I am overjoyed with the help and support you have been offering to him.”

- Parent



CARE, SUPPORT AND FEELING VALUED

The care and support of our students begins before they join us in Year 7. Our transition team works closely with our feeder primary schools to ensure we are fully aware of the academic and pastoral needs of each child. The transition days provide students with a taste of all they will encounter when they arrive in September, and introduces them to our core values and expectations.

At Longsands Academy, we have a pastoral system led by a team of highly-skilled Heads of Year, each responsible for a year group and who are specialists in pastoral care. Priority is focused around support, care and ensuring our young people have a platform to learn and succeed in which barriers to achievement are removed. Ensuring that our students feel safe and cared for is of key importance, to enable progress in learning. Each student receives daily support from their Form Tutor, who guides and mentors.

We promote an ethos of kindness and humility where young people are encouraged to support each other and contribute to a safe and happy environment. We recognise the importance of home-life and we are proud of our ability to build strong relationships with parents/carers offering support in many forms, including financially, so that all students are afforded the same opportunities.

‘As a parent I am in awe of the level of thought, care and support that is given to our son and his peers across all aspects of Academy life. He’s developing into a well-rounded young man, and we as parents can’t take all of the credit, the staff really are a wonderful asset to your community.’

- Parent

‘Having a child with special needs is not easy but having an amazing team behind her helps so much. It wasn’t an easy decision choosing a school for our daughter. We have no regrets about picking Longsands.’

- Parent



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

At Longsands, we want all of our students to leave us ready and prepared for life in the diverse society we live in. All students follow our Personal Development curriculum journey through the strands of Health and Wellbeing, Relationships and Life in the Wider World as part of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. We also take a zero tolerance approach to bullying and we are proud of the way that we tackle these issues when they occur.

Wellbeing

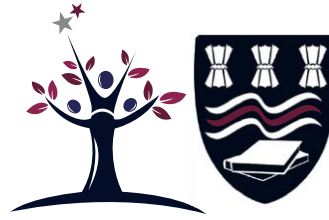
The wellbeing of our students is at the core of all we do. We have trained mental health and wellbeing first aiders amongst our teaching, pastoral and support staff bodies. We are constantly evolving our provision to support all of our students, including some of the most vulnerable. Provisions include a school counselling service and work with a number of external agencies and volunteer groups.

Careers

The Academy ensures that our students are best prepared for the world of work by providing high standard of careers provision. Students are inspired to develop positive attitudes to learning and success. We believe our careers programme stimulates ambition and confidence. All Longsands students have the opportunity to engage in work related learning experiences. University visits, apprenticeship information events and links with post sixteen providers will be available to support the decision making process for our young people. We are fully committed to Gatsby Career Benchmarks, thus enabling us to provide the best career guidance for our students.



‘Pupils are accepting of difference. They learn about this through a tailored programme of personal development. Pupils benefit from extensive sporting opportunities that are open to all. Beyond sport, sixth form students value organisations such as the medical society, and support available for university applications. This prepares them well for their next steps.’



ENRICHMENT AND LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Longsands offers a rich range of extra-curricular activities that extend beyond timetabled lessons. Students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities which are a vital ingredient in their cultural and intellectual development. The voluntary giving up of free time by both staff and students produces a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect. Our regular and systematic additional learning experiences foster ambition and provide direction at crucial times in a student's studies.

All students are encouraged to develop an interest and participate in the wide range of activities available. Our well resourced Library is accessible for all students before school, during break, lunchtimes and after school. We host a range of enrichment activities that fall within these five categories; Sports and Physical Wellbeing, Wellbeing and Mental Health, Expanding Horizons, Creativity and The Arts, and additional study. The extensive activity ranges include sports, science and technology, STEM, the Arts, Young Carers and Pride Club to name but a few. Students at Longsands instigate, participate in and lead on fundraising activities that are close to their hearts and which reflect our core values. Every student has a part to play and can feel proud of the difference they make. All student actively engage

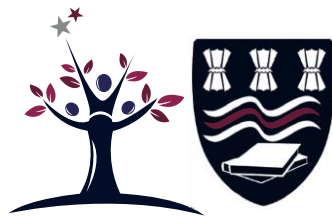
in charity work, raising money and awareness of the work of both local, national and international causes. An extensive programme of educational visits and residential trips, in the UK and abroad, is organised each year. At Longsands we recognise the importance of developing leaders as a way of building the confidence of young people, developing their moral and cultural values and ensuring they give a service to their community. Therefore, we are proud of the role our House Council representatives have to play as pioneers and leaders in the student community. They have a hugely important role to play in leading student voice and in developing a keen sense of responsibility and service in the Academy. There are many leadership opportunities at Longsands.

Each tutor group elects a house council representative who supports the weekly student voice programme. Students in Years 10 and 11 are invited to apply for prefect position, whilst sixth form students in Year 12 and 13 are selected for various leadership positions such as Head Students, Wellbeing and Diversity Champions.

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"Our son had the best week on work experience. They really gave him fantastic insight into their many areas of expertise.... thank you for facilitating this for the children, we appreciate the amount of work that is involved."

- Parent



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND REWARDS

Helping to guide our young people to raise their aspirations and achieve their goals.

We are committed to maintaining a safe and positive environment that is conducive to learning, and one which fosters an ethos that values respect, tolerance and co-operation, and ensures that students enjoy learning at Longsands. Staff and students build excellent and mutually respectful relationships in line with our core values.

We are proud of the students as great ambassadors of Longsands Academy. We set high expectations of students' behaviour in lessons and around the Academy site. A strong sense of community enables Form Tutors and Heads of Year to know students well.

We have a clear and robust system of rewards which support our expectations of behaviour and achievements. Staff routinely look to acknowledge the efforts and achievements of students in terms of their attitude to learning, the quality of their work, and their contribution to their communities. Students are awarded Merits, and these are awarded for all positive aspects of Academy life.

Respectful and positive relationships amongst students is key; if friction or tension between friends arises our staff are trained in restorative approaches to enable the students to work through resolutions and rebuild relationships.

- **Austen House** - represents the Academy value of cultural understanding and creativity
- **Darwin House** - represents the Academy values of dedication, perseverance, and hard work
- **Hawking House** - represents the Academy value of achievement
- **Seacole House** - represents the Academy value of respect and development of moral awareness
- **Turing House** - represents the Academy value of skills and appreciation of diversity



All members of the Longsands community, staff and students are members of a 'House'. The House system brings a sense of belonging within our community; enabling students and staff to work together across the year groups and form new friendships, be involved in new exciting opportunities, further advance the healthy sense of competition and create opportunities for student leadership. Each House represents our Academy Core Values:

Students wear a House tie, to be worn with pride. It denotes the House community that they are part of and students of Longsands Sixth Form have lanyards that display the same House information.



As a trainee teacher, the support I received at Longsands was absolutely fantastic. Any questions or queries I had, there was always someone to help me. I found the students were friendly, kind and made my placement really worthwhile. When looking to apply to my first teaching position, the choices presented to me were swayed by my experience at Longsands, and I was delighted to have secured a position here."

Trainee Teacher



WORK HARD **BE KIND** **ACHIEVE MORE**

INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

"I would like to thank all Longsands Academy staff members for teaching and offering our son the necessary support from the day he joined your Academy. He has lots of positive things to say about Longsands."

Parent

A detailed map of the Eynesbury area. The River Great Ouse flows through the center, with green areas representing parks or reserves. Roads are shown in white, with major roads like the A1 and A428 highlighted in yellow. The map includes labels for roads such as Great North Rd, Mill Hill Rd, Cross Hall Rd, St Neots Rd, Huntingdon Rd, New St, Cambridge Rd, Station Rd, Longsands Rd, Priory Hill Rd, and Barford Rd. It also shows the locations of Eaton Ford, St Neots, and Eynesbury. The Eynesbury Town Council logo, featuring a tree and a shield, is prominently displayed in the upper right. A red 'H' symbol is located on Station Rd. The map is framed by a dark blue and maroon border with the word 'MEASURE' partially visible on the left.

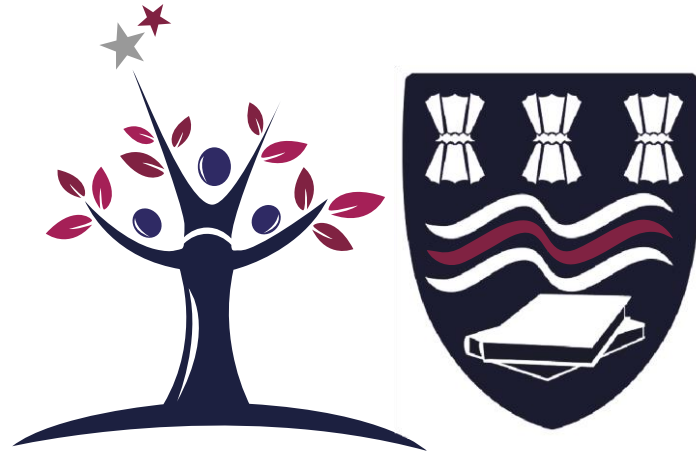


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**LONGSANDS
ACADEMY**

Astrea Academy Trust

INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

2024 - 2025
PROSPECTUS