



**LONGSANDS
ACADEMY**
Astrea Academy Trust
LEARN, THRIVE, SUCCEED

LONGSANDS ACADEMY **PROSPECTUS**

*Giving you the opportunity to
learn, thrive and succeed*

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WORK HARD, BE KIND, ACHIEVE MORE



WELCOME 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 scholars 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 scholars' 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, scholars and their parents/carers. All scholars, regardless of their background or personal circumstances, are encouraged to achieve their academic aspirations.

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

We recognise the importance of scholar support, ensuring everyone has access to a committed team of professionals who work tirelessly to maintain their well-being. This ensures our scholars 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(ren).



Francis Bray
Executive Principal

Collaboration

COLLABORATIVE WORKING



At Longsands, we are passionate about education and that each scholar has the opportunity to **learn, thrive and succeed.**

Our aim is that every child gets a brilliant education. We will do this by pursuing aspirational standards and 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 scholars.

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 starts and you’ll get to the top of the tree.”

- Lemn Sissay, MBE



School Values

VISION AND VALUES

Our core values are the bedrock of our culture and the essence of our collective identity at Longsands Academy. These values underpin a positive and inclusive environment, guiding individuals to embody integrity, compassion, and purpose in their personal and professional lives. They ignite a passion for excellence and underpin a strong sense of belonging within our wider community. Together, these core values empower us to uphold our commitment to excellence and make a positive difference in everything we do.

1

Scholarship

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

2

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.

3

Tenacity

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

4

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 out shcolars and colleagues.

5

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.

Partnership

ACADEMY AND HOME PARTNERSHIP

PARENT/CARER VOICE

A strong partnership between parents/carers and staff is paramount to success and achievements of scholars. 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 scholars receive the best education and support.

PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER AND SCHOLAR BULLETIN

Our popular scholar bulletins are shared with scholars every week, and the Principal Newsletter is shared with families on a regular basis. They detail the school events, news, key dates and important information - enabling scholars and families to truly feel part of our Longsands community. We encourage all parents and carers to follow our website and social media sites which are regularly updated.

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 scholars 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. She wouldn't have had so many achievements without the guidance and supports shown by you all."

- Parent

CARE, SUPPORT AND FEELING VALUED

The care and support of our scholars 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 scholars 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 focussed 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 scholars feel safe and cared for is of key importance, to enable progress in learning. Each scholar 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 financial so that all scholars are afforded the same opportunities.

In addition to this support, we have monitored an open email address – safeguarding@astrea-longsands.org for scholars, and parents and carers to contact us if they are anxious or worried. Our scholar support team remain ready and available to support scholars with their learning and general progress.

“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 the 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

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

At Longsands Academy, we combine our ambition for scholars 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 scholars develop as independent thinkers and learners beyond their traditional lessons: it is broad, balanced and has clear progression in subject knowledge and skills.

All scholars have the same entitlement to the full range of the school curriculum and we are committed to making this accessible to all our scholars, 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 scholars. A wide range of support strategies is provided for scholars 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.

Scholars 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 scholars who have specific challenges and barriers to overcome.

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

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.

Ofsted

SIXTH FORM

Scholars can then go on to study a range of A Levels at our Longsands Sixth Form. Scholars achieve impressive results and many scholars are supported to gain places on competitive courses in the most prestigious universities in the country.

Results

KS4 AND KS5 RESULTS

KS4: IMPROVED OUTCOMES - GRADES

- Riley C – 8 x 9, 1 x 8
- Emma U – 7 x 9, 2 x 8
- Felicity C – 7 x 9, 1 x 8, 1 x 7
- Oliver H – 7 x 9, 1 x 8, 1 x 7
- Aimee T – 6 x 9, 3 x 8
- William J – 7 x 9, 1 x 7, 1 x 6
- Jonah B – 6 x 9, 1 x 8, 2 x 7
- Reuban H – 5 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7
- Grace M – 5 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7
- Oliver S – 5 x 9, 2 x 8, 2 x 7

KS5: EXCELLENT ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

- Vinnie H – A*A*A*A
Warwick University
- Mia F – A*A*A
Oxford University
- Bethany W – A*A*A
Brunel
- Alex N – AAAB
Nottingham University
- Megan C – AAA
Lancaster University
- Daniel S – AAA
Sheffield University
- Carter H – A*AB
Apprenticeship in Accounting
- Lucy He – AABB
Apprenticeship in Accounting
- Lucy Hi – AAB
Nottingham University
- Caitlin N – AAB
University of Bath
- Finlay P – AAB
Sheffield University



Teachers are knowledgeable about their subjects, provide clear explanations and regularly check what pupils know. As a result, pupils achieve well in examinations and are well prepared for successful future study and/or employment.

Ofsted

Development

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

At Longsands, we want all of our scholars to leave us ready and prepared for life in the diverse society we live in. All scholars 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 scholars 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 scholars, 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 scholars are best prepared for the world of work by providing high standard of careers provision. Scholars are inspired to develop positive attitudes to learning and success. We believe our careers programme stimulates ambition and confidence. All Longsands scholars 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 scholars.

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.

Ofsted

Rewards

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR AND REWARDS

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

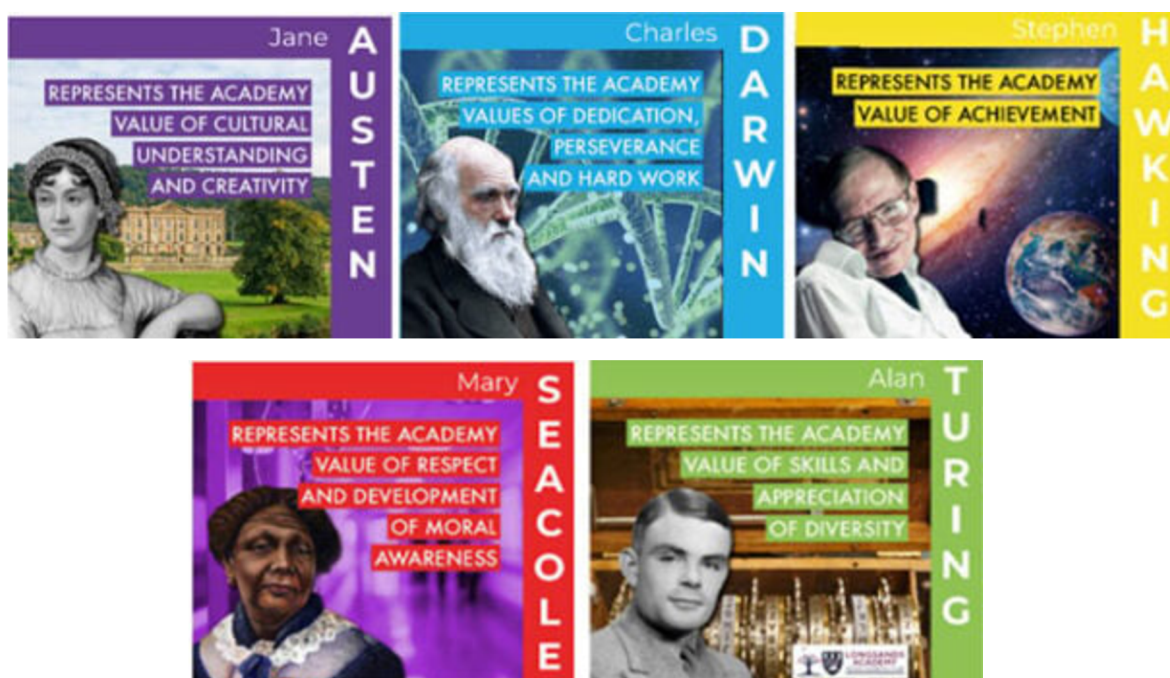
REWARDS

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 scholars in terms of their attitude to learning, the quality of their work, and their contribution to their communities. Scholars are awarded with Merits, and these are awarded for all positive aspects of Academy life. Respectful and positive relationships amongst studies is key, if friction or tension between friends arises, our staff are trained in restorative approaches to enable to scholars to work through resolutions and rebuild relationships.

HOUSE SYSTEM

All members of the Longsands community, staff and scholars, are members of a 'House'. The House system brings a sense of belonging within our community, enabling scholars and staff to work together across the year ground, and form new friendships, be involved in new and exciting opportunities, further advance the healthy sense of competition and create opportunities for scholar leadership.

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



Enrichment

ENRICHMENT AND LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Longsands offers a rich range of extra-curricular activities that extend beyond timetabled lessons. Scholars 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 scholars produces a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect. Our regular and systematic additional learning experiences foster ambition and provide direction at crucial times in a scholar's studies.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All scholars are encouraged to develop an interest and participate in the wide range of activities available. Our well resourced Library is accessible for all scholars before school during break, lunchtimes and after school. We host a range of enrichment activities that fall within these 5 categories:

- 1 Sports and Physical Wellbeing
- 2 Wellbeing and Mental Health
- 3 Expanding Horizons
- 4 Creativity and The Arts
- 5 Additional Study

The extensive activity ranges include sports, science and technology, STEM, the Arts, Young Carers and Pride Club to name a few.

CHARITABLE WORK AND FUNDRAISING

Scholars at Longsands instigate, participate in and lead on fundraising activities and charity work that are close to their hearts and which reflect our core values. Every scholar has a part to play and can feel proud of the difference they make.

TRIPS

An extensive programme of educational visits and residential trips in the UK and abroad, is organised each year.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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 scholar community. They have a hugely important role to play in leading the scholar voice and in developing a keen sense of responsibility in the Academy. Each tutor group elects 2 House Council representatives who meet regularly to share voice and organise events. Scholars in Years 10 and 11 are invited to apply for Prefect positions, whilst Sixth Form scholars are selected for various leadership positions such as Head Scholars, and Wellbeing and Diversity Champions.



CREATIVITY AND THE ARTS



SPORTS AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING





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