

24<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

In addition to our end of year letter issued on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025. I wanted to write once more to showcase all of the amazing things we've achieved this year.

These achievements wouldn't be possible without the engagement of our wonderful pupils and the continued support we receive from our parents / carers.

On behalf of everyone at Longfield Academy, thank you.

Area of Achievement	Progress and impact
Year 11 2024 results	We continue to hold our own in terms of academic achievements, achieving better GCSE results than our neighboring secondary schools.
Quality First Teaching	Research based development of teaching and learning, and extensive external verification to support improvements in teaching and learning.
Ofsted Priorities	A good grading in all four Ofsted categories.
Yr9 Graduation	We have undertaken our first Year 9 Graduation Ceremony to acknowledge and celebrate the transition from KS3 learning to the GCSE journey of success.
Mental Health and SEND support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased in class Teaching Assistant support from 1 to 5 and still recruiting</li> <li>A 'Personalised Learning Centre' (PLC) that comprises of a SEND base, counselling service and Year Manager support</li> <li>2 regulation rooms with weighted blankets and regulation tools</li> <li><b>Programs of support:</b> Zones of Regulation / Occupational Therapy / Anger Management Gremlins / Restorative Practices / Emotional Literacy support (ELSA), Drawing and Talking Therapy / Support for Emotional Based School Avoidance.</li> <li>Access to external support; MIND, CAMHS, Listening Post, Harbour, Being Me, Wellbeing Nurse Service, Future Steps</li> </ul> <p><b>Over 150 children have accessed these services</b></p>
Pledges	<p><b>93% of the whole school have achieved one pledge</b></p> <p>44% have achieved up to 4 pledges</p> <p>21% have achieved up to 6 pledges</p> <p>10% have achieved all 10 pledges</p>

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Charity / Community Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MacMillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning</li> <li>• OAP Christmas Party</li> <li>• VE Day celebrations to support Listing Post and Mental Health</li> <li>• Refugee Week focus and donations</li> <li>• Food bank donations</li> <li>• Children in Need</li> <li>• Local community litter picks</li> </ul>
Enrichment & Cultural Experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• London Parliament Visits</li> <li>• Our Day Out – Drama Performance</li> <li>• Longfield Live – over 20 pupil performances from individual singers, dancers, bands, gymnasts and comperes)</li> <li>• Enrichment week – a range of cultural activities / trips such as: London, Barcelona, Krakow, Beamish Museum, Seaburn, 4Motion, Ninja Warrior, Bowling, Enterprise Workshops and more.</li> <li>• Sports Day – including traditional sports day activities and inflatables</li> <li>• 41 enrichment clubs to choose from.</li> </ul>
Careers Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y8 Enterprise Day – renewable energy and planning a wind farm</li> <li>• 100% achievement in all 8 Gatsby Benchmarks for Careers Development</li> <li>• Work Experience – 95% of Y10 attended work placements</li> <li>• Silver Award for signing up to National Citizenship Service</li> <li>• Y11 Apprenticeship workshop, National Career Service assembly, Post 16 Options evening for parents, application completion workshop</li> </ul> <p><b>Visits to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y10 Middlesbrough College, Stockton Riverside College, QE 6th Form, Darlington College, Future Pathways Event</li> <li>• Y9 Sunderland University, What's Next (apprenticeship and technical pathways), visit to CPI</li> <li>• Y8 NHS Careers performance, Future Pathways Event</li> </ul>
Student Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longfield Book Club</li> <li>• Rewards improved and new ones added</li> <li>• Dance Club introduced</li> <li>• More activities during break and lunchtime (table tennis, football, basketball)</li> <li>• Changes to the queueing system</li> <li>• More Pizzini's on offer</li> <li>• Voting in the Longfield 'General Election'</li> <li>• Darlington Youth Parliament – 2 members of Longfield appointed</li> <li>• One pupil appointed to the Darlington Advisory Group</li> </ul>
	<p>Funding raised to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More equipment for positive play</li> <li>• Swimming lessons</li> <li>• Cycling lesson</li> </ul>

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sweeten  
Headteacher