

11th March 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Welcome to Longfield Academy (Ref:0063-25ASW)

I hope you are all safe and well. We have received the first secondary school allocations list from the local authority, and I wanted to say thank you for choosing Longfield Academy for the next phase of your child's educational journey.

We are delighted to welcome you to our school community, and we want to reassure you that you have made an excellent choice. Following our most recent Ofsted inspection, in which we were graded **'Good' in all four categories**, we are proud to be recognised as a school that delivers high-quality teaching, strong pastoral care, and a learning environment where every child can thrive. Our continued improvements - driven by dedicated staff, engaged families, and a clear vision for excellence - mean your child will be joining a school that is ambitious, nurturing, and committed to ensuring pupils achieve their very best.

To give you further confidence, please see some of the feedback we have received: -

Parent: *"I just wanted you to know how amazingly supportive your SEN team are. They have made a difference to my daughter and it's important to know they are appreciated greatly".*

External Organisation: *"I just wanted to say how great, adaptive and supportive Longfield school is. Following a significant period of time out of education, a young person I'm working with is now attending school and Longfield have progressively supported this pupil beyond our expectations. I just wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to the school!"*

Member of the Public: *"I just wanted to contact you to say that my mum and I attended the pantomime on the 8th of December at Darlington and we were seated next to your school. Your pupils were so well behaved and polite, and a credit to your school".*

I wanted to write to introduce myself and to say how much I am looking forward to welcoming your child to the Longfield Academy and Northern Arch Learning Partnership (NALP) family.

In addition to this letter, I have written a letter for your child, which will be posted to your home address, to say a personal hello and welcome. We all appreciate that this can be an anxious time, and we are doing all we can to mitigate against any worries or concerns.

My letter to your child invites them to write to me to introduce themselves and tell me a little bit about how they are feeling, ask any questions they may have or to tell me anything they would like me to know. They can include information about their hobbies, favourite book or sport for example. Their response can be emailed directly to a specific email that I have created (this is on their letter) so I can be sure not to miss hearing from them, or they can send me a handwritten letter.

Headteacher: Angela Sweeten

longfield.nalp.org.uk

📍 Longfield Road Darlington DL3 0HT

☎ 01325 380815 | 01325 380816 ✉ enquiries@longfield.nalp.org.uk

School Information

When your child joins us in September, they will have the advantage of a **Year 7 only** lunchbreak, and they will have this throughout Year 7. Furthermore, our Choices Policy, (our Behaviour Policy), ensures all children can learn in an environment with minimal low-level disruption.

The transition page of our website has lots of information to start to engage your child, so they begin to feel part of our community. Information includes things like how the cashless catering biometrics system works for dinner money accounts, the welfare and SEND offer, and frequently asked questions with answers as well as useful links. Find out more via: [Transition | Longfield Academy](#)

You can also find out information about subjects and the curriculum via: [Curriculum Content | Longfield Academy](#)

As a parent, you may have your own questions and concerns. If you cannot find the answer within our [FAQ's](#) section of the website, please email the transition team on transition@longfield.nalp.org.uk - they will be able to help with any practicalities such as transport, special educational need requirements, and general enquiries.

Please also ensure you have accepted your place via Darlington Borough Council. Should you need to do this, or to speak with the Admissions Team, please contact T: 01325 406333 or E: schools.admissions@darlington.gov.uk

The Academy Trust

We are proud to be a part of the Northern Arch Learning Partnership which also includes Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College, Hurworth School, The Rydal Academy and Mowden Primary and Infant Schools. We benefit significantly from working within the expertise of nursery to post 16 teachers, leaders and pupils.

Further Information

Last year, we changed our logo and branding. By now, you have probably seen this on our signage, website and social media. All new Year 7 pupils must have uniform with the new logo. If you have an older child already in the school, the old logo will be phased out.

Our school uniform provider is Tees Valley School Wear. You can visit our page on their website via: [Longfield Academy - Tees Valley Schoolwear](#). Further information regarding uniform will follow.

We are available to speak to directly between 8:30am and 4:30pm Monday to Friday during term time. Please contact Mrs Phillipa Rutter at prutter@longfield.nalp.org.uk if you wish to meet with me or any other member of staff. We place huge importance on communication, and I hope this is the start of a strong partnership between home and school, and the first of many positive correspondences.

I look forward to seeing you all during our transition evening. We will write again in the coming weeks with further information regarding the transition induction evening, school uniform, your child's Longfield Academy application form and with key dates for your diary.

In the meantime, enjoy the last few months of your child's time at primary school.

Kind regards,



Mrs Angela Sweeten
Headteacher