



Principal's Message

As the academic year draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity, as Principal, to celebrate some of the fantastic achievements of our students with you. It has been a year filled with successes: academically, on the sporting field, and in various trust-wide competitions. It is truly humbling to reflect on the incredible journey we have shared.

Achieving Beyond Expectations

Our motto at the academy is to "**achieve beyond expectations**," and this year, we have seen this motto come to life in the most inspiring ways. The vast majority of our students are growing in confidence and flourishing in our disruption-free classrooms. Where students have not quite met our expectations, we have been firm but fair, offering corrections as per our policies while also putting supportive measures in place to help them get back on track.



Developing Well-Rounded Individuals

This year has been brimming with fantastic opportunities for our students to participate in events that have helped them develop their communication skills and ability to work in groups. The **Wizard of Oz performance** was a masterpiece, showcasing exceptional talent and teamwork. The **MYP Interdisciplinary Day** was a fantastic experience, fostering cross-curricular connections and innovative thinking. The **Community Project** was brilliant, demonstrating our students' commitment to making a positive impact within the wider community. **Sports Day** was the best ever, a true testament to our students' athleticism and camaraderie.



A Bright Future for Our Leavers

We extend our heartfelt wishes to our **Year 11 and 13 students**, who worked incredibly hard throughout the exam season. Their dedication and perseverance have been truly inspiring.

We wish them the very best for a golden future and eagerly anticipate celebrating with them on results day.

Our Shared Mission

Looking out at all of our students, I see the living embodiment of our mission - which is to develop knowledgeable, inquiring, caring and principled citizens who will contribute effectively to our democratic society. Their positive attitudes, kindness, and willingness to support one another have helped to create the vibrant, inclusive environment that defines our academy.

Our Vital Partnership

Your unwavering support, encouragement, and trust in us are invaluable. I have always maintained that while we may occasionally see things from a different lens, we have a common goal: to use our best endeavours to maximise the potential of the young people entrusted to our care.



Thank you for standing by us, for nurturing your children, and for being an integral part of their journey. I am optimistic that, together, we will continue to achieve beyond expectations for many years to come.

Celebrating Our Staff

Finally, I want to take a moment to acknowledge our exceptional staff. Their tireless efforts, passion for teaching, and generous giving of time go far beyond the classroom. They are the architects of potential, nurturing our students, guiding them, and helping them to maximise their abilities.

We are incredibly proud of our colleagues who have gained recognition beyond the four corners of our academy, including:

- **Mrs Pike:** A finalist for the Trust's Making a Difference Award.
- **Ms Mulholland:** Winner of the Trust's Best SEN Teacher Award.
- **Mr Lowe:** Recipient of the Teacher Training Mentor of the Year Award for North Kent & London.

We also celebrated colleagues whose profound contribution to this academy has spanned many years. Ms Mulholland, Ms Oliver, Mr Kozak, Ms Sudds, Ms Mutch and Ms Sandford, all celebrated 20+ years service at the academy.

Thank you for being such a vital part of our academy community. I wish you and your families a restful summer break.

I also remind you that when we return in September 2025, the academy will be called Leigh Academy Longfield.



Leigh Academy
Longfield

Annual Awards Evening

What a fantastic evening we had yesterday at our annual Awards Ceremony! We were honoured to welcome the Mayor of Dartford, Councillor Peter Whapshott, and the CEO of J & E Hall International, Mr Andrew Bowden, who joined us to present the awards and celebrate the incredible achievements of our students. A huge congratulations to all our prize winners - your hard work, determination, and talent truly shone through.



We also wish to extend our gratitude to Mr Andrew Bowden and J&E Hall International, whose sponsorship of this annual event has made the proceedings even more spectacular.



Wizard of Oz Production

This module, our school theatre was transformed into the magical Land of Oz as students brought the beloved classic The Wizard of Oz to life. From the yellow brick road to the Emerald City, the production was a dazzling display of talent, teamwork, and creativity. Which truly took the audience somewhere over the rainbow 🌈.



Parents/carers, staff, and students packed the hall for these stunning performances. A huge thank-you to everyone who helped make the production a success - including our Performing Arts Team and Tech Team who ensured everything ran smoothly. Congratulations to all involved - you truly showed that "there's no place like home!"



Enrichment Days

As part of our vibrant enrichment days, students had the opportunity to engage in one of a number of trips which were taking place, or to enjoy a range of on-site activities. A big thank you to Ms Liasu for the organisation of these events.

Thorpe Park

Students had the opportunity to enjoy an action-packed day out at Thorpe Park. Upon arrival, students were given free time to explore the park in groups. From the twists and turns of Stealth to the heart-racing drop of The Swarm, everyone found a ride that got pulses racing! For many, the highlight of the day was overcoming fears together and supporting each other on some of the park's most thrilling rides. Teachers noted how well students looked out for one another, and showed fantastic behaviour throughout the day.



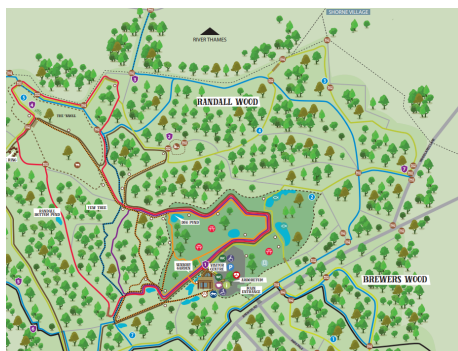
Shorne Park

Another of our trip options was the beautiful local Shorne Country Park. enjoyed a wonderful day out at the beautiful Shorne Country Park as part of their geography and science studies.



The trip gave students the chance to explore the natural environment, and discover more about local wildlife and habitats.

Students were particularly fascinated by the variety of insects and plants found in the woodland and meadows, and many said they enjoyed the chance to spend time outdoors and away from screens with their friends.



On-Site Activities

Back at the Academy, there was a huge range of fun activities.

The first was a series of exciting inflatable activities which were set up in our Sports Hall. The activities set up included "Hungry Hippos" and "Last One Standing" - students had a fantastic time competing against each other in this energetic series of activities.



Whilst outside, there was a Sports Day which included a wide range of fun activities for students to enjoy in their teams.

The first was mini-golf, and students were able to 'put' their skills to the test on the obstacle course set up for them.



Sports Day fun continued with a range of other exciting team building activities. This included sumo suits, space hopper and sack races. It was a really fun day for all, with everyone being able to support their team and participate in a range of activities.



Community Project

On Tuesday 15 July 2025, Year 9 completed their Community Project. Students who were chosen to represent their tutor group to deliver their charity boxes set off to visit their chosen locations. We visited Battersea, Brands Hatch who were very appreciative and bought out two lovely dogs to greet us. We then went to Second Chance Animal Sanctuary, and dropped the boxes in their donation bin. Then we set off to Medway Hospital, where we delivered the boxes to the play room/ area at Dolphin Children's ward who were over the moon with the generous boxes and lastly we went to Willow Ward, Darent Valley Hospital who also were extremely appreciative of the gifts for the children. The year 9s were amazing and were able to talk about their boxes, choosing their locations and why the project was important. An excellent example of Community Spirit from all year 9 involved in the project! Well done!



As an MYP school, Longfield students take part in an interdisciplinary unit. This is when two subjects work together to address a problem that they notice across the world or within local communities.

Year 7: Geography and Design: Creating a sustainable world. Students and staff have noticed that the use of plastics in unexpected ways can be too often wasteful. Even when considering something as simple as plastic bottles. To address this issue, the design department campaigned to collect as many plastic bottles as feasible over module 6. In this unit, students then learnt through geography about the context and cost of sustainability. Following this through design, how plastics can be better reused through creative projects and advocacy. From this, students then created sunflower planters out of discarded plastic bottles that they could take home or plant within the academy. They applied their design knowledge in the process of the bottles construction and decoration, alongside their geographical knowledge when considering the design.

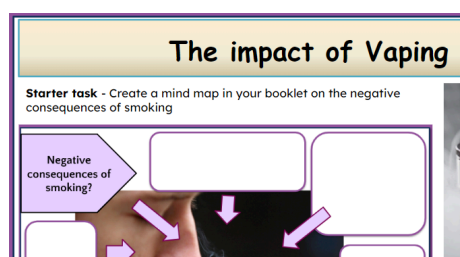


Year 8: Language Acquisition and Maths: Students at Longfield acknowledge the importance of international mindedness, however they also see challenging barriers in the local community. Two of these are that people often will not have the financial or cultural capital to travel abroad. It is expensive to go to Paris, it can also be quite daunting to be in an unfamiliar country. To tackle this issue, students budgeted and planned for an international trip. Considering how to cut costs and how to communicate with people in another country throughout the journey. As part of this process, Matisse College became Paris and Madrid itself. Students applied their budget roll playing the process of visiting an airport, paying for tickets and purchasing goods for their holiday. The intention being that students will be able to use this experience to embark on more holidays abroad without making a dent in their wallet.

Copie et complète l'activité

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Je voudrais | a) in the suburbs |
| 2. à la campagne | b) in town |
| 3. dans un village | c) I would like |
| 4. en ville | d) at the seaside |
| 5. à la montagne | e) in the countryside |
| 6. au bord de la mer | f) in a village |
| 7. en banlieue | g) in the mountains |

Year 9: Science with Language and Literature: We are aware in the media about the epidemic of vaping, our students want to wipe this out. Science shows us the clear negative effects of vaping on young people's health. However, we are also aware that such companies seem to also be targeting young people through the nature of the products and the advertising strategies used. As an act of advocacy, Longfield students combined the powers of Science and English, to create counter campaigns to young people that expose the problems of vaping. Clearly explaining in an accessible and appealing way how this habit is affecting young people's bodies.



What is the significance of interdisciplinary learning?

Younger learners often make connections naturally between different areas of knowledge, in order to understand the world around them. Even though secondary education usefully organizes learning into disciplinary compartments as a response to increasing specialisation, our ever-changing world also demands education that empowers people to integrate disciplines in novel and creative ways.

As knowledge and information multiply, critical thinkers must successfully integrate disciplinary perspectives to understand complex issues and ideas.

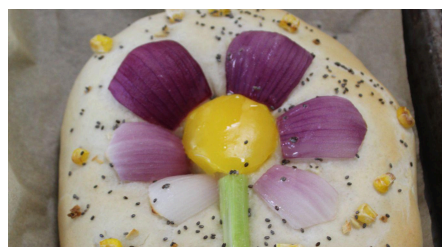
Celebrating Year 9 MYP Graduation

On Friday 18 July we celebrated the success of our year 9 students with an MYP 'graduation' ceremony in our theatre. Students heard from Mr Lane, who spoke about the importance of the MYP and the reasons why we follow this curriculum model here. Students were then awarded a certificate to signify their graduate status. Well done to year 9!



Focaccia Bread Art

Students in Food Prep and Nutrition have been making some beautiful (and delicious!) breads.



Work Experience

Year 10 and 12 students have been off enjoying their work experience placements. A key part of developing their knowledge and understanding of real workplaces. For students who remained at school, they were part of the "Longfield Academy Employment Agency"; they had to read job descriptions, apply for in-school jobs, be interviewed and then conduct their work throughout the week accordingly. Staff have reported the fantastic professional attitude of our students and were delighted with how they embraced this exciting opportunity.



Celebrating Nadia's Sporting Success

We are delighted to celebrate the incredible success of Nadia, who recently won multiple awards at the Leigh Academies Trust years 9 and 10 Sports Day. Nadia took home the medals for 100M and 200M, and runner-up in the long jump. Nadia was also awarded with the trophy for the "Most Valuable Athlete" award. What an exceptional collection of achievements; well done Nadia!



Upcoming events

- 1/9/25 - First day for **years 7 and 12 only**
- 2/9/25 - All students return
- *Other key dates TBC in September*
- 17/10/25 - Last day of Module 1

View the [academy term dates](#) on our website

Academy Notices

We bid all our students and families a restful summer break. A reminder that school will return for years 7 and 12 only on 1 September. All other students return on 2 September.

A reminder that from September, our academy will be called Leigh Academy Longfield. This name change will affect email address and weblinks, so please check for updates of these in the new academic year.



Leigh Academy
Longfield

Important Contacts

General Enquiries

info@longfieldacademy.org

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@longfieldacademy.org

SEN Team

senco@longfieldacademy.org

Attendance



attendance@longfieldacademy.org

Other Contacts

<https://longfieldacademy.org.uk/contact-us/>

Follow our Socials

We post regular updates about events and other academy news on our social media channels. Are you following us on Facebook and Instagram?

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Safeguarding & Wellbeing

At Longfield Academy, the safety and wellbeing of children at school, at home and online is our priority.

You can find additional information about our safeguarding practices, and what to do if you are worried about a child, on our website.

[Click here for our safeguarding website.](#)