

Principal's Message

This module has seen several external validations of the hard work happening within our walls. We are delighted to share the positive outcomes of several key reviews:

Challenge Partners Review: I am pleased to inform you that Leigh Academy Longfield was judged to be leading in all areas – the highest recognition that the Challenge Partners can give. In addition to this, our Spectrum Centre was once again recognised as an Area of Excellence. Commenting on their experiences, one of the reviewers asserted that “It was great to see so much excellent practice, the improvement journey the school has enjoyed under the current leadership, and students who were universally polite, professional and great ambassadors for Longfield’s values”.

Another reviewer remarked that despite participating in several Challenge Partner reviews, their experiences at Leigh Academy Longfield was “superior” and commended our students for the “calm and purposeful learning environment”. Such recognition gives credence to the commitment of our students, parents, carers and staff, and I am truly grateful to you all for your continued support.

Safeguarding Review: The safety and wellbeing of our students remain our top priority, and the review confirmed that our systems and culture are robust and effective. It was particularly pleasing that reviewers noted that: There is evidence of the school going “above and beyond” in terms of safeguarding the children; Staff and students felt “safeguarding was a priority”; Crucially, all students they spoke to saw school as their safe place.

SRP (Specialist Resourced Provision) Monitoring: This review celebrates the inclusive environment we provide, ensuring all students have the support they need to achieve and thrive.

Following Mr. Shaw’s secondment to another trust school after five years of brilliant service here, we have some exciting news regarding Matisse College.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Shanthan has been appointed as Acting Vice Principal and Head of Matisse College. As many of you know, Matisse is very familiar territory for Mrs Shanthan, as she previously served as Assistant Principal there. This deep understanding of the college’s community ensures a smooth and successful transition for both students and staff.

Welcoming Our New SENCo

We bid a fond farewell to Julie Rance, our SENCo, who is leaving us after a year to join a school in Medway. We thank her for her dedication and wish her the very best in her new role.

I am delighted to introduce Charlotte Melbourne as our new SENCo. Many of you may remember Charlotte from her previous work with us. She has always been a fierce champion for children with SEND. We are confident that Charlotte will continue to strengthen our already robust SEND department.



Our success is built on the strong, collaborative relationships we share with our families. Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and partnership. We are already looking forward to a fantastic Module 5. Wishing you a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

DofE Practice Expedition

We are incredibly proud of the 29 students who showed fantastic grit and determination as they successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition.

Braving the elements and navigating through the local countryside, our students put their training into action. Carrying their full kit, they demonstrated impressive teamwork, navigation and leadership skills.



This practice expedition is a vital stepping stone toward their qualifying weekend. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow with every mile covered.

A big thank you to the staff who made the expedition possible, and well done to all of the participants



Longfield receives Young Carers in Schools Award

The academy was presented with the Young Carers in Schools award on 23/3/26. Young carers are children under 18 who are responsible for the care of a family member with whom, due to illness, disability, mental health condition or addiction, can't cope without their support.

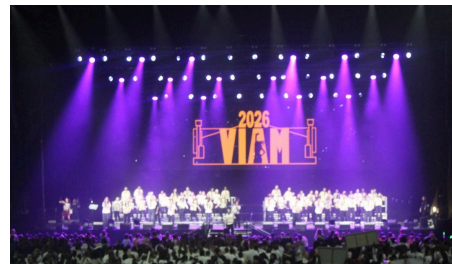
The award is part of the Young Carers in School programme run by The Children's Society and Carers Trust. The programme provides primary and secondary schools across England with step-by-step guidance for teachers, leaders and non-teaching staff to gain the practical tools they need to help young carers. Leigh Academy Longfield achieved the award by demonstrating how it supports young carers.



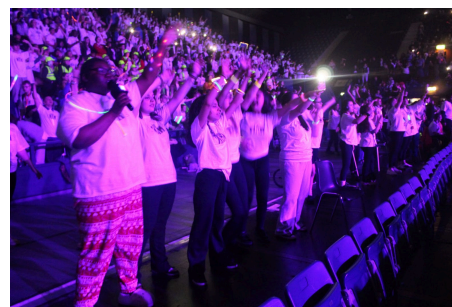
If you would like to find out more information about Young Carers, or about the ways they are supported here at Leigh Academy Longfield, you can contact the academy directly and ask to speak with the Young Carers Champion Mr Watkins.

Voice in a Million

On 19 March, 16 of our talented Leigh Academy Longfield pupils attended the spectacular "Voice in a Million" concert at Wembley.



The energy inside the arena was electric, and our students were right in the heart of the action! Alongside 6,000 other children, the members of our Longfield Vocal Workshop sang their hearts out, showcasing incredible passion and teamwork. It wasn't just about the music; it was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to build community spirit as they made new friends from schools across the country.



Year 11 & 13 Half Term School

Over the Easter holidays, we will be running an array of interventions for year 11 and 13 students, who will be sitting their exams later this year. Students have already been invited to attend sessions published by Mrs Shanthan, and communication will be sent to parents/carers to this effect.

Last year, we found that our Half Term and Saturday interventions were very well attended and popular with students. If you have been invited to join a session, we encourage you to take part so that you do not miss out on the opportunities provided.

Year 11 APRIL Half-term timetable

Mon 6th April AM 9.30-11.30	Mon 6th April PM 12-2pm	Tues 7th April AM 9.30-11.30	Tues 7th April PM 12-2pm	Wed 8th April AM 9.30-11.30	Wed 8th April PM 12-2pm	Thur 9th April AM 9.30-11.30	Thur 9th April PM 12-2pm	Friday 10th April AM 9.30-11.30	Fri 10th April PM 12-2pm	
No sessions BANK HOLIDAY		Mrs Kyriacou English master class B104	Mr Pearson History B003	Mrs Gilham English B105A	Mrs Umeokoli Maths (Higher) B104	Mrs Gilham English B104	Mr Pearson History B003	No sessions		
		Mrs Dolny Higher Maths (Grade 7-9) B106B	Mr Kozak Maths Foundation B106A	Mrs Dolny Higher Maths (Grade 7-9) B106B	Mr Pearson History B003	Mr Pearson History B003	Mrs Shanthan Maths Foundation B105A			
		Dr Donkor Maths (Higher) B003	Mrs Umeokoli Maths (Higher) B104	Mrs Umeokoli Maths (Higher) B104	Mrs Shanthan Maths Foundation B105A	Mrs Shanthan Maths Foundation B105A				
			Mr Jarvis Chemistry TRIPLE B105a	Mr Pearson History B003			Mrs Savage Combined Science Higher B105B			
				Mr Alridge Geography B105B						
				Dr Donkor Maths (Higher) B003						

Year 13 APRIL Half-term timetable

Mon 6th April AM 9.30-11.30	Mon 6th April PM 12-2pm	Tues 7th April AM 9.30-11.30	Tues 7th April PM 12-2pm	Wed 8th April AM 9.30-11.30	Wed 8th April PM 12-2pm	Thur 9th April AM 9.30-11.30	Thur 9th April PM 12-2pm	Friday 10th April AM 9.30-11.30	Fri 10th April PM 12-2pm
No sessions BANK HOLIDAY		Mr Pearson History B003	Mrs Dolny Maths B106B	Mr Pearson History B003	Mrs Dolny Maths B106B	Mrs Shepley Psychology B003	Mrs Shepley Psychology B003	No sessions	
		Mr Jarvis Chemistry B105a				Mr Kotamo Maths B106B	Mr Kotamo Maths B106B		

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to all the staff who have agreed to give up some of their holiday time, to come in and support the students so they can achieve beyond expectations.

You can find the full timetable, along with more information about it, on our academy website.

Mrs Navanya Shanthan

Assistant Principal Anderson College and Raising Standards Lead

Upcoming events

- 20/4/26 - Start of Module 5
- 23/4/26 - Year 11 Information Event (in-person)
- 30/4/26 - Year 7 Parents Consultation Evening (in-person)
- 22/5/26 - End of Module 5

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

Academy Notices

A reminder for years 11 and 13; ensure that you make the most of the interventions being offered over the holiday! See correspondence which has been sent out by Mrs Shanthan.

Important Contacts

General Enquiries

info@longfield.latrust.org.uk

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@longfield.latrust.org.uk

SEN Team

senco@longfield.latrust.org.uk

Attendance



attendance@longfield.latrust.org.uk

Other Contacts

leighacademylongfield.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 Leigh Academy Longfield, 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.](#)