



Longfield Academy
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Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, BEd, NPQH
Head of School: Mrs A Sweeten, BA (Hons), MA, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Rawle, BA (Hons), MA

25 August 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: September Ready Welcome – (0001-22ASW)

I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and your children are ready for a positive return to school. Thanks to all our parents / carers who continue to be exceptionally supportive of our standards, expectations, and acknowledge the quality education we are striving to achieve at Longfield Academy. We want to continue working with you to get the best for your child and make their time here enjoyable, safe and productive.

Below are a few reminders to help you stay informed, continue with your support, and allow time to be focussed on learning and progress. We look forward to working with you in the next year.

Attendance

We reward pupils each term with 100% attendance.

Please ensure that a reason for absence is reported to school on the first day of absence **before 9.30am**, and every day of absence. This can be done by either:

- Telephone 01325 380815 (selecting option 1)
- Use mySchoolApp to register the absence or;
- Email attendance@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk

****Please do not call or message the Year Manager as they are sometimes unable to process this information in time leading to unwanted stress or concern about missing pupils.***

Please ensure that your child is on time for school. Any pupil late to school, without a reasonable excuse, will be given a detention to catch up on missed work.

Behaviour – Choices System

Staff work hard to provide an excellent education provision that can be provided to all pupils without the distraction of low-level disruption. This is even more essential due to the potential gaps in learning caused by the pandemic. Our behaviour expectations are simple:

- In all lessons we expect children to focus on learning. If this is not the case, children are reminded, by a tick on the Choices Board, that they have chosen the wrong behaviour. For example, this could be for talking over the teacher, shouting out, failure to do as requested, lack of engagement in a task or arguing with the teacher – anything that prevents themselves and others from learning and the teacher from teaching
- Every child has three reminders to focus on learning and avoid further poor behaviour choices
- On the fourth tick, your child will then be asked to go to another teaching room



- If your child refuses to go to that room or continues to disrupt the learning of others in the new classroom, your child will be asked to attend the Choices Room. This may be for the remainder of the lesson or for the full day depending on the situation
- Referrals will also be dealt with at the end of a day. Serious referrals may lead to pupils being internally excluded in our Choices Room or suspended. Length of sanction will be based on the incident and suspension level a pupil is on which takes into consideration previous suspensions.
- If we have concerns that your child's behaviour is due to an educational or social need, we may direct them to the Personalised Learning Centre (previously the ORB) where we will support any educational or social issues that are presenting as barriers to learning.

Uniform

Please support us to ensure that the following items of uniform are compliant with our expectations. Failure to comply may result in pupils being required to borrow items from the school. If they refuse to accept our alternatives, a sanction may be imposed.

- Black school shoes – not trainers. Shoes should not have badges or embellishments
- Trousers must have a **button and zip fastening** – not leggings
- Skirts must be knee length and black tights must be worn
- Please ensure all uniform and PE kit has your **child's name written in** so we can return it if it gets misplaced
- Please leave all jewellery at home otherwise this will be confiscated. While every attempt will be made to keep it safe, we will not take responsibility for lost items
- Piercings are not permitted for health and safety reasons. New piercings will not be accepted as an excuse to wear earrings, nose studs or tongue bars
- False nails are not permitted for health and safety reasons and should be removed prior to returning on 5th September 2022.

Further uniform information can be found on our Longfield website <https://longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk/> under policies or at our suppliers' website <https://elizabethsschoolwear.com/>

Equipment

Pupils must arrive equipped for their learning:

- All pupils **must have a school bag** - carrying items in blazer / jacket pockets is not acceptable
- Pupils should purchase additional equipment such as a 30cm ruler, maths equipment including a scientific calculator, highlighters and additional pens
- A planner will be given out free of charge on the first day of return. If the planner is lost, one must be purchased at a cost of £3.50
- Basic stationery will also be provided on the first day. (Black, blue, purple and red pen, pencil, 15cm ruler, eraser, glue stick, protractor and white board marker)
- A scientific calculator must be purchased.

Mobile Phones

In line with our normal policy, mobile phones are not permitted to be used in school. Phones should be handed in or switched off and kept out of sight throughout the school day. When pupils arrive, we expect them to be switched off. **Mobile phones will be confiscated until the end of the school day if seen.**

We wish all pupils a positive start to the 2022/23 academic year. Please feel free to contact your Form Tutor or Year Leader if you have any queries or concerns.

Biking to school and road safety

We are currently working with the council to explore a safer crossing point as Longfield Road is a busy road on a morning and after school. Please encourage your child to use the crossing points where we have supervision and be vigilant when crossing. Currently, although staff supervise the street outside school, we do not have any legal jurisdiction to stop cars to support children crossing the road.

There have also been several issues involving pupils on bikes riding on the pavement and impacting on walking pedestrians. If your child chooses to bike to school, please ensure they abide by the highway code and ride on the road, dismounting when they go onto the pavement. Helmets should also be worn. Locked bike sheds are available for pupils arriving to school on time and pupils must walk their bikes when on site.

Results

We are delighted to report that despite the difficult few years the academy has experienced, we have still delivered some fantastic outcomes for our young people. Although the final progress score will not be available until later in the term, we are confident it will be positive. Our attainment grades have improved since 2019 particularly in English, who have achieved an outstanding pass rate of **82%**. GCSE PE, Graphics and Photography achieved an outstanding **100%** pass rate. Spanish, Biology, Physics and Chemistry all achieved pass rates of **95%** and above. Vocational subjects also did exceptionally well; Sport, Music, Travel and Tourism and i-Media secured **100%** level 2 pass rates, with Engineering at **98%**.

We are incredibly proud of what all our children have achieved.

Staffing Changes

We have the following staff changes in September:

Staff who have left	Replacement
Ms Hope – Head of History	Mr McCavanagh
Mrs Brown - Attendance	Ms Gates
Mrs Glover – Head of Science (Maternity leave from October)	Miss Kelly – Temporary Head of Science
Ms Morton - SENCO	Mrs Griffiths
Mrs Crawford – Head of ICT	Vacant post to be filled January. Mr Ali will be in post until a new Head of Computing is appointed
Mrs Celik	Vacant post until January. However, her timetable will be covered by internal Maths staff.
Mrs Laver – Head of English	Miss R Armitage

Other new starters:

- Mrs Awford – New Teaching Assistant
- Mrs Nicholson – New, Full time Maths Tutor
- Miss Wilthew – New Inclusion Administrator

We are also hoping to appoint further Teaching Assistants and a Director of Science as soon as possible. If you are interested in these posts, please check the vacancy section of the website.

We are extremely proud of the improvements we have made since April to ensure the smooth and effective running of the academy. We intend to embed and build on these improvements and value your continued support. As always, please do not hesitate to contact the academy if you have any questions or queries via enquiries@longfield.swiftacademies.org.uk

We hope our pupils and families enjoy the remaining holiday and look forward to welcoming pupils back to school at 8:30am on Monday 5th September 2022.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A Sweeten".

Mrs A Sweeten
Head of School