



# LONGSANDS ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (LGC)

# Monday 4 July 2022

# To be held at 5.30pm

# **At Longsands Academy**

Membership: Mark Young (Chair); Lee Larcombe (Vice Chair) Neil Owen (Principal); Dawn Milne;

Richard Slade; Nathaniel Stephenson; Donna Singleton.

In attendance: Deborah Gordon

Clerk: Melanie Basson

Minute	Summary of action required	Responsible	Status		
Reference					
18.05.22	The Principal to arrange for James Powell to review the references to other policies with regards to legislation	Principal/JP	Complete		
18.05.22	Link Lead visit reports to be sent to the Clerk for presentation at the next LGC meeting	LL/DS			

## Agenda

Item	Timings	Subject	Format
1	2 mins	Introductions and apologies	Oral item -
		● BH	Chair
2	2 mins	Declarations of interest	Oral item -
			Chair
3	5 mins	Minutes, action tracker and matters arising	Papers
		Minutes of last meeting on 18 May 2022	attached -
			(pp3-7)
			Chair
4	20 mins	Principal's report and questions	Papers
			attached –
			(pp8-20)
			Principal
5	10 mins	School Improvement Plan	Plan circ-
			Principal
6	10 mins	Safeguarding Audit 2021-22	Audit circ - CG

7	5 mins	Policies: to be acknowledged:	Oral item –
		<ul> <li>Transgender policy - adopted</li> </ul>	Chair
8	10 mins	Member visits	Oral item -
		• LL	Chair
		• DS	
9	2 mins	LGC meeting dates 2022-23	Oral item -
		<ul> <li>28 September 2022</li> </ul>	Chair
		• 23 November 2022	
		• 25 January 2023	
		• 15 March 2023	
		• 10 May 2023	
		• 28 June 2023	
10	5 mins	Longsands LGC Impact Statement 2021-2022	Oral item - Chair
11	2 mins	Future agenda items and confirmation of forthcoming	Oral item -
		dates	Chair
		<ul> <li>Next LGC meeting 28 September 2022</li> </ul>	
12	2 mins	Any Other Business	Oral item -
			Chair



# **LONGSANDS ACADEMY**

# **Local Governance Committee (LGC) meeting**

# Thursday 18 May 2022

# At Longsands Academy

# **MINUTES - PART A**

Members Present:	Mark Young - Chair; Neil Owen - Principal - Longsands Academy						
	Lee Larcombe - Vice Chair; Dawn Milne; Nathaniel Stephenson; Donna						
	Singleton.						
In Attendance:	Melanie Basson - Clerk						
	Clare Greaney – Vice Principal						
	Deborah Gordon – Assistant Principal						

Minute Reference	Summary of action required	Responsible	Status
03.03.22	Clarification required for the 'blank' data contained within Behaviour Analysis	SAH	Complete
03.03.22	Attendance to be discussed as a standalone item.	Clerk	Add to next meeting agenda
03.03.22	Sexual assault category line to be added to the table for safeguarding data.	CG	Complete
03.03.22	Establish the number of PP and SEN students taking part in enrichment activities.	JDP	Complete – Principal's Report
03.03.22	Anti-bullying policy to be electronically ratified and published	Clerk, CG	Complete
03.03.22	Dr Larcombe and Mr Merson to schedule a learning walk in maths and compare findings with behaviour data for maths.	LL/JM	Complete
03.03.22	Link Lead visit reports to be shared with the Clerk for circulation	All	Complete - ongoing

03.03.22	Agenda time for Link Lead Visit Reports to be increased	Clerk	Complete - ongoing
03.03.22	The Principal will request that the School Council contacts Mr Slade to arrange a litter pick.	Principal	Complete
18.05.22 Item 6	The Principal to arrange for James Powell to review the references to other policies with regards to legislation	Principal/JP	
18.05.22 Item 7	Link Lead visit reports to be sent to the Clerk for presentation at the next LGC meeting	LL/DS	

#### 1) Introductions and Apologies

The meeting started at 5.30pm. Introductions were made, and staff were welcomed.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Slade and Mrs Hughes and these were accepted by the committee.

#### 2) Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest for agenda items regarding this meeting.

#### 3) Minutes, Action tracker and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Longsands LGC meeting held on 3 March 2021 were circulated to committee members and ratified in advance of the meeting.

The committee reviewed matters arising and noted all actions were completed and recorded in the action tracker.

The committee were informed that 'blank' data contained within the Behaviour Analysis in the Principal's report reflects behaviour data added by support staff on behalf of teachers and data added by cover teachers. Bromcom will report this data differently going forward.

The committee were informed that the DfE have published a white paper regarding student attendance and the Academy are awaiting guidance from Trust with regards to its approach.

# Action: Attendance will be discussed as a standalone item at the next meeting, Clerk to add to next agenda.

The Principal informed the committee that Longsands students 'Litter Crusaders' are active in arranging termly litter picks around Priory Park, contributing to the local community and the Academy. A Groundsperson has been appointed to the Site Team which has also improved the litter issue in this area.

The committee adopted the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### 4) Principal's Report and questions

The Principal's report was circulated to the committee in advance of the meeting highlighting the following points:

• Leadership and Management

- Parental engagement
- SEND
- Pupil Premium Grant
- Behaviour, safety and wellbeing (incl. safeguarding)
- Attendance 88.4% for all year groups for this academic year
- Alternate Provision
- Quality of Education
- Personal Development
- Enrichment

The committee were delighted to be informed that Longsands Academy have been accredited with the Excellence in Pupil Development Award and Wellbeing Award for Schools.

The Principal acknowledged the benefits of the new Management Information System, Bromcom used by all Astrea schools. Bromcom furnishes academies with more reporting functions than the previous system. Mr Stevenson gave positive feedback that it works well from a staff point of view.

The Principal informed the committee that Astrea has allocated further investment to facilitate improvements to Longsands Reception area and refurbishment to the Sixth Form block. Student voice has been enlisted in terms of Sixth Form area developments.

#### Behaviour

Dr Larcombe demonstrated an alternative way to present behaviour data detailing the distribution of C1's, C2's and House Points issued to students across all subjects. The committee were able to make comparisons between the total number of sanctions issued to students compared to SEN and PP students as well as a percentage of curriculum time.

Committee agreed that Dr Larcombe's analysis method would be beneficial when establishing levels of behaviour sanctions are consistent across the subjects and student cohorts.

Mr Stephenson informed the committee that if students are issued with three C1's (consequence/warning) in a week, this will result in an automated C2 sanction (after school detention). The committee were informed that this may result in an increase in the number of C2's issued in future. Bromcom enables the Academy to track student behaviour sanction trends and identify areas of focus to address behaviour.

#### <u>Safeguarding</u>

Mrs Greaney expanded on the Principal's Report regarding student's overall mental health as reported from January to March 2022. The Academy reported a 60% success rate seeing no further incidents following support received. The committee were reassured to hear that student's requiring mental health support are receiving support which is proving helpful and that students have support plans in place where needed.

#### **Quality of Education**

The committee were informed that Longsands has been awarded a BERA and British Curriculum Foundation research grant of £5000 that will support work to enhance the 'diversity of the narrative voices' in our curriculum, with a particular focus on Year 10.

The Principal and SLT were thanked for their reports.

#### 5) T Levels

Mrs Gordon reported regarding the changes in technical and vocational subjects available to students nationally, Post 16.

T Levels are new qualifications:

- Two-year technical programme of study
- Equivalent to three A Levels
- Students spend 80% of the time in the classroom
- Gain UCAS points
- Industry placement with an employer for 45 days (20% of the course) 80%

Mrs Gordon informed the committee that Examining Boards and the DfE are currently deciding which courses are to be removed e.g., BTEC's, Apprenticeships, AS Levels.

In light of Longsands approach to this growing program, the Academy is considering offering T-Levels within Computer Science initially. By 2024 the Academy endeavour to add more T-Level subjects.

The Academy has submitted a bid for £capital funding to facilitate the support with developing the Digital T Level.

The Education Foundation will be delivering a one-day training session for teaching and support staff in what a T Level is and what it involves. Governors were invited to attend this session scheduled to take place on 7 June 2022. Mrs Gordon expressed the importance of being able to offer student work placements for the students undertaking the T Levels from September 2023. And invited governors to suggest business links who could support work placements for students in the field of Software, IT Technical and Cyber companies.

Mrs Milne questioned what other local Post 16 providers are offering by way of T-Levels and whether Longsands offer is competitive.

Mrs Gordon reported the Academy are keeping up to date on what other local providers are offering in future when considering what T Levels Longsands should offer.

#### 6) Policies

In support of Longsands commitment to the LGBT+ community, Miss Zoylinos is working towards the Academy achieving the Rainbow Flag Award, a national quality assurance framework for schools. The award focuses on positive LGBT+, inclusion and visibility encouraging a whole organisation approach to LGBT+ inclusion, as well as developing strategies to effectively challenge and combat LGBT+phobic bullying.

Longsands Transgender policy has been updated and was circulated to the committee in advance of the meeting and was reviewed by the LGC.

<u>Dr Larcombe suggested the references to legislation in the policy could be replaced by a section referring to other Astrea/Academy policies to avoid duplication.</u>

Action: The Principal to arrange for James Powell to review the references to other policies with regards to legislation.

#### 7) Member Visits

Mrs Milne visited Longsands in her role as Link Lead for Personal Development on and her report was circulated to the committee in advance of the meeting.

<u>Dr Larcombe and Miss Singleton have visited Longsands in their Link Lead roles and were asked to send their reports to the Clerk.</u>

The Chair reminded committee members to share Link Lead school visit reports with the respective SLT Lead before sending to the Clerk, for presentation to the rest of the committee.

Mrs Milne was thanked for her report.

#### 8) Future agenda items and confirmation of forthcoming dates

- The committee noted the date of the next Longsands LGC meeting date is scheduled for Monday 4 July 2022
- Proposed 2022-23 LGC meeting dates
- SIP
- Annual Impact Statement

#### 9) Any Other Business

Attendees were thanked for their contribution and SLT members left the meeting. The meeting finished at 7:35pm

The LGC agreed the above to be a true and accurate record of the meeting on: 15 June 2022



# **Principal's Update**

# **Longsands Academy**

**July 2022** 

# **Leadership and Management**

#### Highlights since last meeting

- External examination series completed for students in Year 11 and Year 13.
- Moved to face to face assemblies, and face to face CPD for staff.
- At our New Staff Induction, we have welcomed six new colleagues who will be joining Longsands in September, including Early Career Teachers in Computer Science, PE and English, as well as the new Assistant Principal: Pastoral and Operations Manager.
- By the time of the LGC meeting, we will have hosted the Year 6 into 7 transition day and welcome event for parents and carers. We will have also held our Year 11 into 12 transition day.
- The timetable for academic year 2022-23 has been completed.
- Our enrichment programme continues to develop and thrive; thirty-eight trips and visits have occurred this half term.
- Doddle has now ceased as our Homework platform. MS Teams is now being used as our Homework platform and the launch of the Haldor App for parents/carers to access live data.
- Summer works have been planned refurbishment made to the front of the school, improvements of the Sixth Form Block, new heating system in the main block, Replacement of Music Department PCs with new higher specification units (x 15), Replacement of AV equipment in classrooms, and upgrades to the server.

#### PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

- Parent and Carer Forum: Enrichment. Parents and Carers were invited to meet with Mr Owen and Mr Powell to discuss the Academy's enrichment programme, the meeting took place on 15 June. Discussions were positive and feedback taken on board in relation to school trips, notice period and arrangements for booking students on to trips. Based on discussions a survey has been sent to parents and carers this term.
- Sports Awards evening took place on Thursday 17 June to celebrate individual and team achievements.
- The Summer Awards Evening invites have been sent to parents/carers

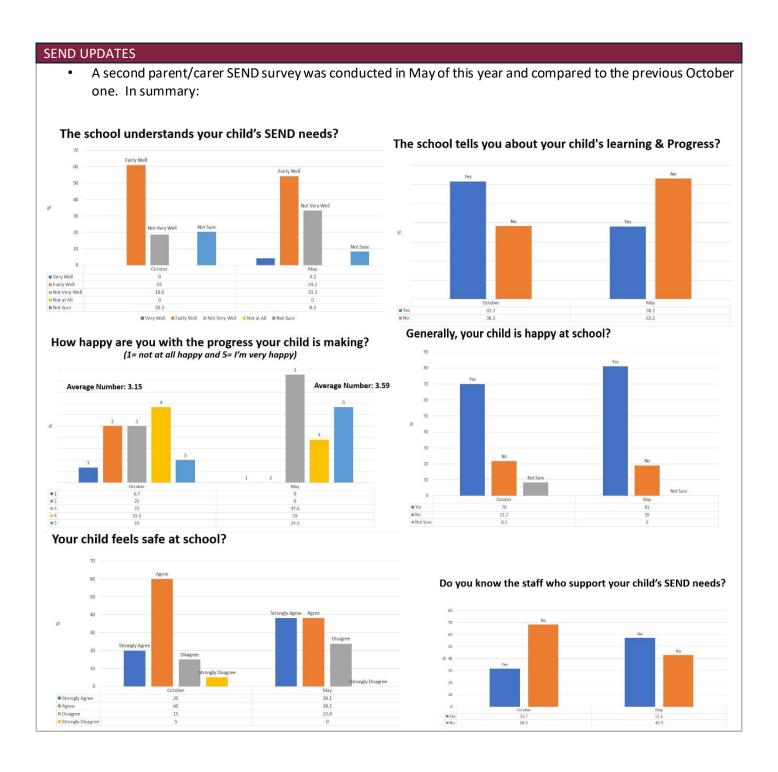
### SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC)

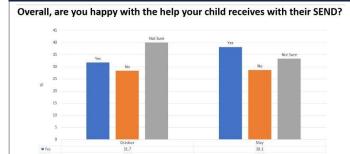
Number of LAC: (total)

#### Number of students on the SEN register:

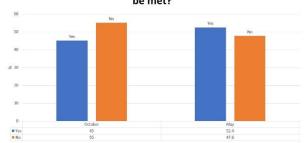
Year	'K' Codes	EHCPs	Total SEN
7	37	4	41
8	30	6	36
9	40	6	46
10	31	9	40
11	29	3	32
12	14	2	16
13	6	2	8
Total	187	32	219

LAC
1
1
1
2
1
1
0
7

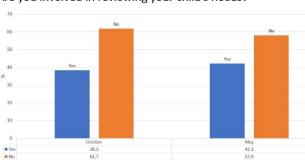




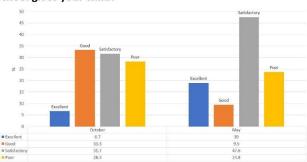




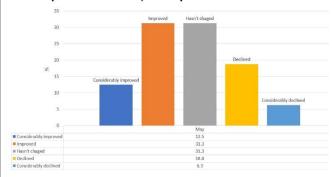
Are you involved in reviewing your child's needs?



Overall, how do you rate the effectiveness of the support the school gives your child?



#### Since September of 2021, SEND provision has...



On the 6<sup>th</sup> June, Thomas Laud joined us as the new SENDCO for Longsands. Some of the findings from this survey has contributed to our SEN action plan moving into the next academic year.

#### Initial Assessment on Department - 3 Weeks in

- SEND register to be updated ensuring that all K Coded students have the most up to date assessment need
- Interventions need to be relaunched enabling our lowest level students within literacy and numeracy to have

the required skills to access the curriculum.

- Access Arrangements to be reviewed, managing parental expectations, and enhancing the required skills needed for post 16
- Student Information sheets to be updated having student voice, incorporating the APDR cycle
- SEND department to be reshaped, ensuring that TAs are delivering the correct support

#### SEND Department - Structure

#### Reshaping the facility

- Essential to maximise the space and create a department which carrying out a variety of support within an inclusive environment
- E2- SEND/Alternative Provision Room 1 Morning Interventions (To be established in Autumn 2), Lexia Intervention, Break and Lunchtime clubs, Nurture group, Examinations Room (Small Venue 1), Overflow of
- E4- SEND/Alternative Provision Room 2- TFTF 2 days per week, Examinations Room (Small Venue 2), Alternative Provision Lessons, Overflow of Interventions
- E5a- Catch Up literacy office

- E5b/c- Dawns Office
- E6- TA Workroom
- E7- SENCo Office/Administrator
- E8- Sensory Room Lego Therapy/Mindfulness
- E9- Catch Up numeracy office

#### Interventions

- Interventions will be carried out in September for the following areas;
- Literacy Catch Up literacy & Lexia
- Numeracy- Catch Up numeracy (Students from KS3)
- SEMH- TFTF, Lego Therapy, Mindfulness and Nurture group
- This will be carried out by L1, 2 and 3 TAs due to the training which has been carried out this academic year.

#### **Until the End of Term**

- Meetings with key faculty areas to discuss support for next academic year
- Updating all SEND Information Sheets, including pupil voice and parental views
- Host a Meet the SENDCO evening x2 if requires- Online 5-minute meetings
- Meet with all EHCP students to carry out an APDR AFF has been complete, and example has been presented
- Carry out initial assessments for all catch up interventions, enabling us to hit the ground running in September

PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT (PPG)									
Number of students currently entitled	Year	PPI							
to receive PPG	7	78							
	8	61							
	9	60							
	10	62							
	11	58							
	Total	319							

# **Behaviour and Attitudes**

## **Mobility:**

Leavers as of 17 June 2022:

	Number left	Of which SEN	Of which PP
Year 7	7	2	3
Year 8	13	2	4
Year 9	5	2	4
Year 10	10	3	1
Year 11	3	0	2

## Admissions:

	Number joining	Of which SEN	Of which PP
Year 7	6	0	2
Year 8	14	2	8
Year 9	6	1	3
Year 10	11	0	1
Year 11	5	3	3

#### Attendance

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DEAL     1689     52422     461128     10775     89.8%     87.9%     10.2%     0.2%     0.1%     5.4%     0.4%     0.0%     32.9%     13874       3R     1574     49634     430995     10058     89.7%     87.8%     10.3%     0.2%     0.1%     5.4%     0.4%     0.0%     33.1%     12928	oked After	7	61	2184	39	97.3%	95.6%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	38
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	on EAL	1689	52422	461128	10775	89.8%	87.9%	10.2%	0.2%	0.1%	5.4%	0.4%	0.0%	32.9%	13874
NWBR 237 5737 61686 1282 91.5% 89.8% 8.5% 0.1% 0.1% 4.4% 0.4% 0.0% 30.4% 1780	BR	1574	49634	430995	10058	89.7%	87.8%	10.3%	0.2%	0.1%	5.4%	0.4%	0.0%	33.1%	12928
	on WBR	237	5737	61686	1282	91.5%	89.8%	8.5%	0.1%	0.1%	4.4%	0.4%	0.0%	30.4%	1780

#### **Current Work**

- Attending Bromcom User groups and raising support through the help desk
- Staff guidance on registers and coding
- Guidance shared with trusted adults in supporting students with anxiety and their attendance. Work has begun with some key students.
- Attendance CPD to all staff providing attendance figures and adopting strategies to ensure a whole school approach
- Regular updates in PWB
- Attendance whole school reward system
- Met with new SENDCO to discuss ways to improve attendance of K and E students

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION				Met with new SENDCO to discuss ways to improve attendance of K and E students									
	ALTERNATIVE PROVISION												
Number of students	Year	Number of	Number	Number	Number of	E-Learning	Reduced						
currently receiving	Group	<b>AP Students</b>	of PPI	of EHCPs	'K' Codes	Only	Timetable						
Alternative Provision	7	2	1	0	0	1	1						
	8	4	3	1	2	4	0						
	9	4	1	0	1	3	1						
	10	7	5	1	3	5	2						
	11	0	0	0	0	0	0						
	12	0	0	0	0	0	0						
	13	0	0	0	0	0	0						
	Total:	17	10	2	6	13	4						
			59%	12%	35%	76%	24%						
1													

## **Key AP Updates**

- Year 11 & 13 have been removed from the AP register.
- HRC placements have been sourced for two current Year 10 students, commencing in September.
- AP/Wrap Around Care facility is currently being planned for September 2022.

- Staffing for AP students to have some in school care has been organised and will be implemented in September 2022.
- Thinking for the Future interventions/workshops organised for September delivery.
- The SENDCO has started to organise alternative schools for the two EHCP students as Longsands cannot provide for the necessary needs of these students.

#### Behaviour updates and priorities

#### **Key updates**

- Half-termly HOY praise letters continue to be sent out to students who consistently meet our expectations. At half term, these were sent to the 1147 students in Years 7-11 who had not received a C2.
- Communications regarding C2 and C3 sanctions have been improved in response to parental feedback. Automated messages have been amended and parents/carers receive an immediate phone call to provide further context if their child/ren is placed in the Reflection Room (C3).
- Face-to-face assemblies have provided opportunity to issue impactful conduct reminders to students.
- Half-termly behaviour analysis (please see below) showed 'Missed Detentions' as a clear trend. Actions to address this, such as Period 5 teachers escorting students to the detention hall, have had an immediate positive effect upon detention attendance and reduced lesson time lost due to sanction escalation to a C3.
- Staff continue to develop their understanding of behaviour tools in Bromcom and are effectively resolving queries as they arise.
- Our Behaviour Manager continues to mentor 25 students at risk of AP.

#### **Behaviour Analysis**

C1's

Year Group(s)	Chewing gum	Disruption to Learning	Lack of equipment/PE Kit/Books	Lateness to lesson	Lateness to school	Refusal to follow reasonable instructions	Refusal to Work/Lack of effort	Total
07	6	664	76	32	6	38	15	837
08	9	739	107	113	6	97	40	1111
09	4	568	73	45	1	56	27	774
10	7	310	23	88	19	21	39	507
11	2	34	9	47	2	11	4	109
12	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	4
Total	28	2315	288	327	36	223	125	

# C2's

Year Group(s)	Disruption to Learning	Damage to property	Failure to complete homework	Lack of equipment/PE Kit/Books	Missed Detention	Mobile phone used, seen or heard	Refusal to follow reasonable instructions	Refusal to Work/Lack of effort	Throwing items	Truanting – internal (SLT D)	Uniform issue	Rudeness towards adult	Rudeness towards pupil	Total
07	55	1	30	1	36	5	17	3	6	3	7	0	6	170
08	120	2	17	2	84	5	54	18	12	38	0	14	3	369
09	66	3	9	0	60	6	24	20	2	13	1	4	13	221
10	40	2	12	0	81	2	28	4	3	8	2	9	7	198
11	15	0	11	0	39	3	8	5	1	4	1	2	3	92
12	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total	296	8	82	3	302	22	131	50	24	66	11	29	32	

# C3's

Year Groups	Drug/Alcohol/ Smoking Related Incident	Disruption to Learning	Inappropriate Ianguage (Swearing)	Missed Detention	Physical Violence - adult	Physical Violence - pupil	Refusal to follow reasonable instructions	Refusal to Work/Lack of effort	Truanting – external	Theft	Unsafe Behaviour	Verbal abuse towards adult	Verbal abuse towards pupil	Total
07	0	2	0	10	0	5	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	22
08	1	19	1	26	1	9	18	5	8	0	0	8	1	97
09	1	22	1	26	0	0	4	3	3	0	1	0	1	62
10	5	14	3	36	0	3	3	1	1	0	2	5	0	73
11	0	4	0	20	0	0	4	0	5	0	1	1	0	35
Total	7	61	5	118	1	17	31	9	18	1	5	14	2	

# Data by subject

\*please note 'blank' reflects behaviour data added by support staff on behalf of teachers and will cease to exist with migration to Bromcom

# **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding Data Return 2021 -2022 - CPOMS	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22
Social Care Referral	3	3	1	2	0
Social Care Assessment	4	1	0	2	0
Subject to Child Protection Plan	1	1	0	0	0
Subject to CIN Plan	2	3	4	4	4
Previously Open to Social Care	0	0	4	4	4
Early Help Assessment	2	2	1	0	6
Subject to Early Help Plan	26	29	27	31	29
LAC	7	7	7	7	7
Previous LAC	6	6	6	6	6
Young Carer	21	21	21	21	21
Positive Handling Used	1	1	1	0	1
Prevent Concern	0	0	0	0	0
Prevent Referral	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time Timetable	13	16	6	7	7
Elective Home Education	4	0	0	0	3
FGM Concern	0	0	0	0	0

FGM Referral	0	0	0	0	0
Online Safety	0	0	0	1	2
CME	0	0	0	0	0
Report to Police	0	0	1	0	0
Child Exploitation (Main Category)	0	0	0	1	0
CSE (sub category)	0	0	0	1	0
CCE (sub category)	0	0	0	0	0
Harmful Sexual Behaviour	0	0	0	0	0
Mental Health (Main category)	10	10	64	15	33
Self-Harm (sub category)	8	8	32	7	19
Suicidal Ideation (sub category)	3	4	8	5	3
Child on Child Abuse (Main Category)	3	0	22	6	19
Bullying (sub category)	0	0	6	0	1
Intimate Personal Relationship Abuse (sub	0	1	0	1	0
Physical Abuse (sub category)	0	1	0	0	2
Sexual Violence (sub category)	0	0	1	0	0
Sexual Harassment (sub category)	2	2	3	0	6
Sharing of Nudes and Semi-Nudes (sub)	1	1	1	0	1
Upskirting (sub)	1	0	0	0	0
Initiation/Hazing (sub)	0	0	0	0	0
Transphobic Incident	0	0	0	0	0
Racist Incident	0	1	1	0	0
Homophobic Incident	0	0	1	0	3
Sexist Incident	0	0	0	0	0
Disablist Incident	0	0	0	0	0
Staff allegations - Low level concern	0	1	0	0	1
Staff allegations - LADO case	0	0	0	0	0

# **Safeguarding Audit Feedback**

## Actions since the last audit

- Link to new or updated policies placed on Staff Weekly Bulletin
- Anti-bullying Policy Updated
- A further 30 staff have completed Emergency First Aid at Work training
- Three further members of SLT have completed Safer Recruitment training
- Mobile phone policy updated
- HoY monitoring progress of vulnerable students (including those with, or previously with, a social worker) – presentations to SLT
- AP calls (daily) and home visits (weekly) recorded on CPOMS
- Business continuity plan published
- PEAPs continue to be used to support students with rising numbers of exclusions in preparation for a Managed Move if appropriate (2 managed moves agreed in the summer term of 2022)
- 360 Safe review carried out and evidence identified work continues
- Minutes of House Council Meetings made available for safeguarding purposes
- Donna Singleton took over as link governor for safeguarding three meetings held so far

• Governors requested to completed on-line safety training in addition to their safeguarding training so far (via Educare).

# **Quality of Education**

#### Curriculum

The final half term of the academic year is an important time for subject leaders and teachers to evaluate the progress the department has made with their action plan for the year. Significant progress has been made by departments in codifying their subject-specific 7 *Principles* and refining these principles over the course of the year. Knowledge Organisers have been implemented with Year 10 and 11, in addition to Year 7, 8 and 9, specifying the core knowledge that student should learn, and providing students with a tool for self-quizzing in all subjects. Knowledge Organisers will be launched with Year 12 and 13 in the new academic year. Whilst having visualisers in classrooms is still a fairly recent development, there are now examples of excellent practice across most subjects in the use of visualisers to support explanations and modelling. There is far greater centralising of homework tasks at the department level, which has led to greater consistency of approach and a more equitable provision for students. Similarly, there have been improvements in the revision processes and materials that are provided to help Year 7, 8 and 9 students prepare for their mid- and end-of-year assessments. The process of writing action plans for the new academic year is now underway; these are directly informed by the priorities in the Academy Improvement Plan.

It has been wonderful to see so many departments leading a wide range of trips this half term, including a Computer Science trip to Bletchley Park for Year 10 students and Geography trips to Sheringham and Cranedale. Year 12 English students were due to see King Lear at The Globe, but unfortunately the performance was cancelled; however, the group made up for their disappointment with a tour of the theatre and visits to the British Library and British Museum. The PE team led stretch and challenge trips to Xtreme 360 trampoline park, Gravity Rocks and Ride Leisure, and, after a two-year hiatus, the annual Condover Hall netball trip resumed and was a great success.

We were proud to host the second annual Dr Miller Physics Award event in memory of our former colleague. The science department organised a brilliant day of inspiring physics challenges for a group of 30 Year 10 students, who were selected for their outstanding ability in physics. Working in teams, they put their Physics and Engineering know- how to the test in challenges involving Electrical Engineering, Astrophysics, Quantum Physics and designing a device to save a stricken spacecraft.

We are pleased to have secured Causeway mentoring for ten Year 12 students who are applying to top tier universities which will provide students with advice and feedback on writing their personal statement.

Our planning for the introduction of T Levels from September 2023 continues with professional development for staff, promotion with students, parents and carers, and an industry engagement event, hosted by local business, MASS. We are working with the Huntingdonshire District Council Economic Department, Growth Works, and Health Education England to discuss future opportunities for collaboration in relation to technical education in the sixth form.

# **Continuing Professional Development**

We continue to focus on the subject-specific implementation of the 7 Principles through a third round of Collaborative Observations. Alongside the Collaborative Observation model, we are trialling a lesson 'drop in' approach in a small number of departments that enables teachers to see a wider variety of teaching. We will evaluate the effectiveness of this approach to inform professional development plans for the new academic year.

We have held two whole-school CPD sessions this half term, the first of which was an opportunity to outline the academy priorities for the new academic year, and to promote the use of mini-whiteboards as a tool for checking the understanding of all students. The second session was an opportunity to revisit the literacy strategies from The Writing Revolution where teachers reflected on how they will continue to embed these strategies in their teaching. Our Friday CPD briefings have included updates on T Levels, attendance, the new 'drop ins' approach, and an introduction from the new SENDCo.

We are pleased to be hosting six primary school trainees on their 'Broadening Experience' placements, providing an opportunity for the trainees to develop their knowledge and understanding of the transition from Year 6 to secondary school. The trainees have commented on how impressed there are with the academic rigour that the Year 7 curriculum offers and the quality of student's written work.

Our six Early Career Teachers are nearing the end of their first year at Longsands. Their professional development programme has included sessions on mental health, trips and visits, and relationships and sex education.

#### Literacy

We have continued our work to improve the quality of writing by delivering a final CPD session this year which reminded staff of the Writing Revolution strategies and emphasised the link between high quality academic reading materials, deeper thinking and effective writing skills.

A meeting of our textbook working group has taken place where staff from five departments discussed strategies they have introduced to support SEND students with academic reading. In particular, the RE department presented examples of how they have adapted and annotated textbooks to make them more accessible. Participating departments are also trialling strategies to improve student's vocabulary knowledge.

The Teacher of Reading has begun to work on transition plans for next year's Year 7 students following a meeting with the Fresh Start coordinator. She is also doing some intervention work with Year 8 reluctant readers in conjunction with the English department.

In the library, the Sixth Form section is now in place and a small separate study area for Sixth Form students has been created. The library staff have completed CPD to improve their understanding of how data from the Accelerated Reader programme can be used to support students with their reading and they are currently working on plans to recruit student librarians for the next Academic year.

#### End of Year Assessments

During the first three weeks of June, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been engaged in End of Year Tests. As with previous mid-year tests, these are designed to assess students' acquisition of knowledge and skills throughout their time so far at Longsands. Parents and students received revision information earlier in May, and the week prior to each test was devoted to revision. In

addition to their revision, Year 7 students enjoyed a workshop from Orange Steve, who provided motivation and advice on study skills in advance of their Tests.

This summer, it was possible to run tests in Core Subjects in the main exam hall. Amongst other benefits, this provides an early opportunity for students to experience that environment, in anticipation of public examinations to come. All other subjects ran their tests during timetabled lessons.

Results from these assessments will be reported to parents at the third Progress Reporting stage – reports due to be sent out during the penultimate week of term. Parents will be informed of the percentage outcome in each subject, alongside the median score for all students in the year. Further analysis will help Heads of Year/Department and tutors identify students who are in danger of underachieving relative to baseline measures.

# **Personal Development**

#### Work Experience

Year 10 Work Experience is taking place week beginning 27 June 2022. As well as preparation for this taking place during Personal Development sessions, an additional assembly has been added to the schedule, delivered by Kate Martindale, to ensure that students maximise their full potential whilst out on placement and they gain valuable insight into the world of work. The placements students have accessed are impressive in their diversity and it is very pleasing to see local places of work supporting our students through this process.

Year 12 Work Experience is taking place week beginning 11 July 2022. This year group missed out on Year 10 Work Experience, which is why it was so important for us to introduce it within Longsands Sixth Form. The Careers Team have worked tirelessly with the students to support them throughout the process with specific PD sessions, additional tutor support sessions have been put in place and additional assemblies have taken place. Those students who do not manage to gain placements will be required to attend Longsands Sixth Form and complete MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses) on Unifrog to enhance their Post 18 opportunities.

#### Rewards

Rewards certificates and prizes for accumulation of house points was temporarily suspended last half term due to the shift over to Bromcom. With the necessary report not working correctly, the manual process of generating the list of students who have successfully achieved the totals on the ladder at the end of this half term all get their certificates and prizes. This comes at the end of another successful year of seeing the House System embedded. Sports Day is an event highlight of the year, and we will find out which house will be triumphant in lifting the House Cup as winners of 2021 – 2022.

#### Enrichment programme

The Enrichment Programme continues to grow and our focused work with the Parent Forum provided invaluable feedback on our current provision and how he can further improve it. The suggestion of a Brochure to help clearly signpost opportunities was warmly received by the Parent Forum and this is going to be taken forward to September, when it will be further refined and shared widely amongst our families and community.

Trips and visits were also keenly discussed as part of the Parent Forum. As a result of these conversations and feedback sent in from parents who were unable to attend, a survey has been created to ascertain the day, time and allocation method (first come, first served or lottery) our families would prefer. The outcome will be shared and be the basis of future planning of trips and visits year. It is also planned to create a working document of planned trips for each year group that can be shared with parents and carers at the beginning of the year to enable them to plan and budget accordingly.

The House System and Enrichment Coordinator role that has been recently advertised will also support in the promotion and enhancement of the enrichment opportunities students can access. A cultural shift of attendance to an enrichment activity is not optional but expected is needed and this role will be key in cementing this message out to the students and community.