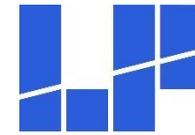




BRIGANTIA
LEARNING TRUST
Creating excellence together



Longley Park
SIXTH FORM

Longley Park Sixth Form Executive Principal Recruitment Additional Information

Introduction and context of Academy

Longley Park Sixth Form is located in North East Sheffield. The area faces high levels of disadvantage and educational attainment by the age of 16 is significantly below national averages. The majority of young people in the local area leave school without achieving 5 good GCSEs, including English and maths. The Sixth Form was established to raise levels of progression to further and higher education from local schools, and has maintained this mission. The majority of students (75%) live within a 2 mile radius of the Sixth Form. Following the Area Based Review of post-16 provision in the Sheffield City Region, the College converted to Academy status as part of the Brigantia Learning Trust in September 2017. The scale of the Trust has created capacity for driving further improvements in opportunity and attainment in the North East of Sheffield. In 2019, Trust sister Academies improved their Progress 8 and Achievement 8 scores. However, other local schools declined.

Since opening in 2004, the driving force behind Longley Park's broad curriculum offer has been ensuring that there are entry points at all levels, and clear pathways for progression to enable young people from local schools to access provision. There have been adjustments to the curriculum in response to student demand and the local labour market, for example the significant expansion of Applied Science and discontinuation of Performing Arts courses.

The Academy has taken robust action to improve standards. In 2019-20, 75% of students were enrolled on a Level 3 main programme, 19% on a Level 2 main programme and 6% on Level 1. A very high proportion of students (67%) study English and/or maths at a lower level alongside their main programme.

Longley Park Sixth Form has continued to develop Level 3 provision to meet the aspirations of students for whom A-Level study may not be appropriate. 66% of students studying Level 3 are enrolled on a Vocational main programme and 34% on a programme of A Level or mixed A-Level and applied courses. A significant number of young people follow blended pathways, combining one or more A-Levels with BTEC courses.

Longley Park Sixth Form has the following strategic priorities for 2020-21:

1. Achieve Ofsted Outstanding
2. Provide excellent support for students
3. Increase student recruitment

The Sixth Form had a full Ofsted inspection in October 2018 and was confirmed 'Good' in all aspects:

- Staff and Trustees successfully raise students' aspirations. Most leavers progress to higher education.
- Leaders, managers and Academy staff model and celebrate diversity very well. Students from a wide range of cultures behave well, work diligently together and respect the views of others.
- Staff quickly identify students who need extra help with their studies. They support them very effectively, both in and out of the classroom, and help them achieve.
- Leaders and Trustees are passionate about ensuring that students can access higher level academic and vocational courses at the Academy. Students enjoy their learning and most make fast progress.
- A high proportion of students achieve their vocational qualifications. Students take pride in their work and develop the confidence, knowledge and skills that they need to progress to further and higher education, training or employment.
- Teachers plan and teach GCSE English effectively. Students make good progress with their studies and achieve high grades.

Cohort Context

- Longley Park serves the local area, with 75% of students drawn from within a 2-mile radius of the Academy.
- Prior attainment is significantly below the sector norm. The average GCSE point score for students on A-Level programmes is 5.4, compared to a national average for Sixth Form Colleges of 6.2.
- In 2019-20, 85% of the student cohort did not have English GCSE at grade 4 or above compared with 11% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.
- 87% of the student cohort did not have maths GCSE at grade 4 or above, compared with 15% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.
- 40% of the student cohort had neither English or maths GCSE at grade 4 or above, compared with 6% nationally for Sixth Form Colleges.
- 24.5% of the student cohort had an identified learning difficulty or disability.
- 89.2% of the student cohort (934 students) came from postcodes with disadvantage uplift. This is the fourth highest proportion of students from disadvantaged postcodes in the Sixth Form College sector. Indices of Multiple Deprivation reports show that a very high proportion of Longley Park students come from the most deprived wards in the country: 87% of students in 2019-20 came from the top 2 bands of deprivation compared to 24.9% for Sixth Form Colleges nationally. More than a quarter of students from the top 2 bands of deprivation across Sheffield are enrolled at Longley Park.
- 607 students (56.8% of the cohort) were identified as being disadvantaged learners, in receipt of Pupil Premium. This proportion has increased steadily since 2017.
- 373 students (34% of cohort) were in receipt of a discretionary bursary, indicating that household income is lower than £16,000. 273 students claimed free meals (25% of cohort). 20 students were in receipt of a vulnerable students' bursary due to living independently, being in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or having been a Looked After Child.
- The proportion of Longley Park students describing themselves as White was 21%, Asian/Asian British - 34% and Black/African/Caribbean/Black British - 23%. Students from Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups made up 6% of the cohort and 16% described themselves as from Other ethnic groups, with the majority Arab (10% of Academy cohort).
- Analysis of ethnicity alongside Indices of Multiple Deprivation data shows a stark correlation between BME backgrounds and disadvantage, with 100% of our mixed students coming from the poorest households.
- 27.3% of the cohort had English as a second or other language. 45 different languages are spoken by Longley Park students.
- 56% of the cohort were female; 44% male.

Impact of Covid-19

The Sixth Form is located in an area of Sheffield significantly affected by Covid-19. During the first lockdown, wards surrounding the Sixth Form had some of the highest rates in the country for both infection and mortality rates. We are aware of 30+ students who lost loved ones to Covid-19.

In addition, the Sixth Form's student body includes very high proportions of groups likely to be disproportionately affected by both the virus and the negative impact of lost learning: high levels of disadvantage; multi-generational households; BAME; lack of access to IT/suitable work space; adverse mental health.

The Sixth Form is also aware that some of our most vulnerable learners with complex social and emotional difficulties, suffered significant trauma during the lockdown.

Supporting our students in their return to formal education and ensuring that they are not irrevocably disadvantaged by the lack of face to face teaching will remain our top priority, but will also present huge challenges.