

17th November 2023

A Commissioners Perspective.

Working together for the best outcomes.

As a school we work with Longlands as an alternative provider, commissioning day placements for some of our sixth form students. Knowing that Longlands has a similar ethos to our own, considering all of our students' individual needs, we have been confident for our students to attend Longlands as part of their weekly timetable.

Longlands have offered our students a wholesome experience working on the farm, building practical skills but more significantly confidence, self esteem and mental wellbeing. Some of the students we have placed with Longlands have had significant difficulties, ranging from learning difficulties, trauma and ptsd, autism, social communication difficulties, social anxiety, adverse childhood experiences, poor mental health and socio economic challenges. We can see the positive impact that a day at Longlands has, the feedback from our students has always been positive and they see their time there as important and valuable to them. For some it gives them an opportunity to find a sense of calm from a chaotic lifestyle, others it gives them an opportunity to be outdoors, in a therapeutic setting with animals where they can start to find a sense of self belief.

Longlands is set in beautiful peaceful countryside where our students are safe and can make a positive contribution to the environment around them. They are able to learn at an appropriate level of challenge, undertake qualifications and take on responsibility for caring for animals, cooking lunch, building and maintaining the land and supporting each other.

The staff at Longlands have a highly supportive and caring approach, they work at the pace of the young person and can build a secure and long lasting rapport with our students, which our students respect and appreciate and reflect on positively years down the line.

Vicky Gundersen Assistant Head of Sixth Form Bridge Business Centre Bridge School Malvern



