

Joseph Longstaff (horn) was born in April 2001 and began learning the horn at the age of seven. He joined The Purcell School in September 2015 where he studies with Beth Randell and Sue Dent. Joseph was the first recipient of the School's Sir Charles Mackerras Scholarship. His studies are also supported by the government's Music and Dance Scheme and The Estates of the late Sir Charles and Lady Mackerras. Since joining the school, Joseph has had a wide range of performance opportunities. As a soloist, he has performed at Sibford School, Oxford, St James Church, Bushey, St. Martin-in-the-Fields and most recently has won the opportunity to perform at the Wigmore Hall. He enjoys a varied chamber music programme: at school he plays with the Brass Quintet and he is a member of two chamber music ensembles at the Junior Royal Academy.

Joseph is also an active orchestral musician. He has performed at venues such as the Southbank Centre, St. Albans Abbey, Watford Colosseum and the Cadogan Hall with the Purcell School Symphony Orchestra. He was a member of the National Children's Orchestras from 2012-2015. He is currently in his second season as a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, with whom he has performed at the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican Hall, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Snape Maltings, and the Royal Albert Hall. Joseph also plays first horn for the Watford School of Music Youth Orchestra.

Outside school, Joseph is a keen table tennis player. He has competed in the National Cadet League and the National Junior League and currently plays in the Premier Division of the Watford and District Table Tennis League.