

Marsh Mail

Young people are fabulous. At a time in their lives when they would customarily be enjoying additional freedoms and independence, they have needed to adhere to restrictions to support the health of their communities. They have done so with stoicism and maturity.

While there is much in the press catastrophising students' educational progress, this does not reflect the amazing engagement levels that have typified LVC students during lockdown. Attendance at live lessons that mirror the regular curriculum have been exceptionally high and the quality of students learning outcomes have been impressive. Students have also been appreciative of the excellent remote pastoral care on offer at this time.

Amongst the narrative of the need for children to 'catch up' in terms of their academic progress, it's actually the relational aspect of their formative years that will be most fundamental: catching up with friends and engaging with others face to face.

Teenage school years are often fondly remembered for the friendships and extra-curricular events such as trips and clubs. It has been a shame that so many enrichment opportunities have been cancelled and postponed due to the current context.

While it is not possible to run our regular enrichment offer, we have launched the 'Connections' Arts project, encouraging students to create compositions and creations that reflect on this theme. LVC students are also participating in a Trust-wide writing competition which will be judged by award-winning published authors.

I am proud of what the LVC community continues to achieve remotely and the support and appreciation of our families.

Helena Marsh