

Marsh Mail

It has been fantastic to observe the College grounds alive once again with the sights and sounds of grassroots sport. Welcoming back community groups onto site has marked the start of our re-emergence from lock down restrictions. Our Sports Centre has also reopened its indoor facilities and looks forward to even more members supporting this village resource over the coming months.

Within the College, students have benefited from a broader educational experience this term. Our Year 7 and 8 students have moved into new learning bases and all year groups have access to more specialist teaching rooms and practical lessons. A number of extracurricular clubs have also restarted.

A healthy lifestyle is also supported by positive mental health. We have been particularly conscious of our Year 11 cohort and how to ensure that the process of awarding GCSE grades this summer takes account of their wellbeing as well as achieving optimum academic outcomes. At LVC we have designed a schedule of assessment, in line with the government guidance and exam board requirements, that gives students the best opportunity to achieve their potential.

During the first half of the summer term, students will be completing a range of slimmed down assessment tasks within their lessons. We have sought to avoid replicating the pressurised conditions of the exam series that has been cancelled.

I have been incredibly impressed with how maturely students have responded to the significant disruption to their education. I have been equally impressed by the hard work and commitment of teachers and support staff. Having adjusted to the requirements of teaching and learning in the Covid-19 contexts and the challenges that this has presented, students and staff are now adapting to the requirements of a teacher-led assessment process.

It is no surprise that the global pandemic has led to a surge in the number of applications for teacher training. While some of this may have been motivated by the job security associated with the profession, the privilege, job satisfaction and sense of reward that comes from supporting young people in their education has been highlighted in the current context.

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