

## *Marsh Mail*

It has been an exceptional year for us all, but in particular our Year 11 students who have foregone their traditional school leavers' experiences and rites of passage. While examinations are typically stressful, they are an important demarcation of the end of secondary education and capture students' academic accomplishments.

This year, the awarding of GCSEs was replaced by a Centre Assessed Grade process. This involved teachers estimating the grades that students would have achieved had they sat the exams, using their best professional judgements. Subject rankings of predicted grades were then scrutinised and moderated by subject teams and senior leaders. The government decided that the Centre Assessed Grades would stand without moderation, aside from some students' grades increasing as a result of a centrally applied algorithm.

Now, more than ever, it is important to recognise and celebrate students' broad educational and personal achievements. I am proud of LVC students' stoicism and resilience as their time at LVC ended prematurely. There are many examples of students who have shown exceptional determination, compassion and drive during these challenging times. All have been a delight to watch grow into exceptional young people during their time at the College. We wish them every success in the next step of their education, careers and lives.

As we enter September our focus is on fully reopening the College safely to all students and staff. Extensive planning and preparation has been underway during the summer holiday to ensure that the site and systems are ready for all of our students to return to school full time.

Many changes have had to be implemented to make this possible and to adhere to government guidance. This includes zoning the school site for different year groups, creating nomadic specialist teaching and staggering break and lunch times to reduce movement and minimise close contact between students in different year groups. This is in addition to enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures.

We are all looking forward to seeing our young people back at school and benefiting from face to face teaching again. The school community's ability to adapt and care for each other has been evident during this crisis.

*Helena Marsh*