



# LMDC High school Newsletter

## Dear Parents, carers, and Students,

I hope this message finds you well. As we embark on our final year before the merger of La Mare de Carteret High School with Les Varendes High School, I wanted to take this opportunity to share our plans and ensure that we are all prepared for the exciting changes ahead.



## Commitment to Students

First and foremost, I want to assure you that our commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for all our students remains unwavering. We understand the importance of this final year at La Mare: for Year 9 as they conclude KS3 and select their Year 10 options; for Year 10 as they start their GCSE journey; and for Year 11 as they conclude their KS4 studies. We are dedicated to providing the support and resources needed for every student to succeed.



## Transition Plans

We have developed a comprehensive plan to ease the transition for all students moving to the new school location. This includes:



**Orientation Programs:** We will organise visits to LVHS to familiarise students and parents with the new environment.

**Support Services:** Our Pastoral teams will be available to address any concerns and provide guidance throughout the transition.

**Communication Channels:** Regular updates will be shared to keep everyone informed about key dates and important information.

## Celebrating Our Community



As we prepare for this transition, it is also a time to celebrate the achievements and memories we have created together. All our students have shown remarkable resilience and dedication, and we are incredibly proud of their accomplishments.

## Collaborative Efforts

We believe that the strength of our school community lies in our ability to work together. Work to ensure a smooth transition includes:

- **New-school design team (NSDT):** This includes students, and staff members from both sites to provide input and support throughout the process.
- **Community Events & Communications:** Regular communications and/or meetings discuss progress, address concerns, and gather feedback from all stakeholders.
- **Encouraging Parent and Student Involvement:** We invite you to participate in various activities and planning sessions to ensure that everyone's voice is heard.



## Empowering Student Leadership

At LMDC High school, we believe in the power of student voice and leadership. As we navigate this final year and prepare for the transition to Les Varendes High School, we are excited to support and celebrate student-led initiatives that foster a sense of ownership and community among our students. In addition, our student-voice led approach has developed a series of FAQ's which

will be published on our website and via social media channels.

### Student-Led Initiatives for the Transition

Our students have already begun to take the lead in several key areas to ensure a smooth and positive transition.

The New-school design team (NSDT) is a dedicated group of students working closely with staff from both sites and the Transforming Education Programme team.

They have been hard at work, meeting regularly to ensure a smooth transition for everyone involved. Their efforts have been focused on several key areas:

- **New School Uniform and School Crest:** The team worked hard in planning a fresh, modern uniform that reflects the school's values and spirit. The new school crest embodies the vision of the group for the new school's identity.
- **House Names and Crests:** In an exciting move, the team have worked on introducing new house names and crests. These will not only foster a sense of belonging and pride among students but also celebrate both schools' existing values and local communities. All students across both sites were able to vote for their preferred house names. Launch events took place on both sites in September and House Competitions are in full swing.
- **Uniform Recycling:** Used uniforms from the Grammar School and La Mare de Carteret have been donated to two charities to support young people in Tanzania and Romania with their education.

### Parent Communication and Involvement

We understand that the transition to Les Varendes High School is a significant change for our entire school community, including parents and carers. To support you during this time, we are pleased to offer a series of parent events designed to provide valuable information, resources, and a platform for open dialogue.



### Upcoming Parent Evenings

These will cover a range of topics to help you navigate this transition smoothly:

- **Understanding the Transition Process:** This will provide detailed information about the transition timeline, key dates, and what to expect as we move to Les Varendes.
- **Supporting Your Child Through Change:** Learn strategies to help your child cope with the emotional and academic challenges of transitioning to a new school environment.
- **Academic Success and Well-being:** This session will focus on maintaining academic performance and well-being during times of change, including tips on study habits, stress management, and accessing support services.
- **Building a Strong School Community:** Join us to discuss ways to stay involved and connected with the school community, including volunteer opportunities and parent-teacher collaboration.

### Event Schedule

We will be hosting events on the following dates:

- **Jan 2025:** Year 9 Options evening hosted at LVHS for all students & parents
- **Feb 2025:** Year 10 Pastoral evening hosted at LVHS for all students & parents
- **Jan 2025 to Jul 2025:** Transition+ support meetings for selected students
- **Jun 2025:** Year 9 familiarisation visits to LVHS for LMDC students
- **Jul 2025:** Year 10 familiarisation visits to LVHS for LMDC students

Further details of these events will be published on our school websites and via social media channels. We encourage all students, parents and carers to participate and take advantage of these valuable resources.

## Joint student activities

In addition to the ongoing work of the New-school design team (NSDT), students across both sites will be participating in the following activities:

- **Oct 2024:** Army Day for all Y10 at LVHS
- **Dec 2024:** Joint Rewards trips for both sites
- **Jan 2025:** “Pen pal program” - students on either site write to collaborate with each other
- **Jan 2025:** Joint PE activities (until the end of academic year)
- **Feb 2025:** “February Friday Form Time” - virtual quizzes pairing Forms on both sites
- **Mar 2025:** Rue Mainguy combined-school trip
- **Apr 2025:** Joint Rewards trips for both sites
- **May 2025:** “Pizza & Mocks” twilight for all Year 10 students
- **Jul 2025:** Activities Week, Rewards Trips & Sports Day

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## Stay Connected

Your involvement and feedback are essential as we work together to ensure a smooth transition. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or suggestions. We look forward to seeing you at the workshops and continuing to build a strong, supportive community together.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we will make this final year a memorable and successful one for all our students, and we will pave the way for a bright future at Les Varendes High School. Let's embrace this journey with optimism and a shared commitment to excellence.

Warm regards,

**Mark Ramsay** BSc (Edin), MBA, PGCE, SQH  
Head of School



SECONDARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

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