

## **Immer Head Student Review 2021**

Being a student over the past 18 months has definitely been a rollercoaster experience. Studying online during lockdown was very full on, but I felt fortunate to have had the support of the academy during that time. As someone who was having to do online classes as well as teaching both my younger sisters during the first lockdown, it was really useful for me to have pastoral support and an understanding from my teachers. When we got back to school, my peers and I appreciated being back in the school learning environment, although the uncertainty of our A-level exams caused a lot of stress for pupils and teachers alike.

It was announced that our grades would be based on evidence collated by teachers, through assessments (hard evidence) and in-class work (supporting, soft evidence). Whilst this was useful as it meant we finally knew what we were working towards, there was also a pressure to constantly perform at the targeted grade. My coursework was used for both Music and Photography, in Sociology and Geography we had three assessments for each. My current predicted grades are A in Geography and Sociology, a Distinction in Music and a B in Photography. These grades should get me into Goldsmiths University to study Popular Music later this year.

I am hoping to keep in touch via the Knole Academy Alumni Network, with the aim to continue to support the school and hopefully offer any career/education advice I can in the future. I am already working on coming into school from September to help with Knole's Music Partnership with local primary schools.

I am very grateful to the academy for the opportunities that I have had over the past seven years. Not only have I taken part in NCS which has helped me develop my teamwork skills, but I have also been fortunate enough to be part of the Kent Academies Network (KAN) over the past five years. The programme has really helped me gain confidence and an understanding of university life. Being a head student at Knole Academy has been an experience that I feel very thankful to have had. Working alongside Sophie to communicate with staff has been really rewarding, and I definitely feel it has helped me with public speaking and expressing the opinions of my peers confidently.

The skills that I have gained from being a student at Knole have really helped me feel that I am ready to begin the next part of my life. I feel super grateful to the school and staff for such a positive secondary school experience and the support they have given me over the past seven years.