



Lapwing

Personalised learning for young people

Lapwing's group media project!

Throughout November and December 2020, seven Lapwing students joined forces to work collectively on creating, editing and producing 'The Mixture Podcast' as part of Lapwing's six week group media project. This was a great opportunity for them to develop their digital, creative, social and communication skills, and enabled them to demonstrate their interests to create an eclectic mixture of content!

One of the biggest challenges that many Lapwing students face, is social interaction and working alongside their peers, which causes individuals to struggle within more traditional education settings. Lapwing's model of personalised learning, which usually starts with 1:1 delivery, is designed to enable students to thrive academically, vocationally and emotionally, while they move towards functioning independently in relevant 'real-life' situations with peers (including school/college, employment or community environments). This group media project, co-ordinated by long term member of staff and resident media guru, Adam Ciappi, provided seven students (aged 12 to 21) with a range of needs and abilities the perfect opportunity to develop new skills, express their interests and creativity, whilst working collaboratively as a team.

The podcasters digitally recorded content which addressed topics as wide ranging as how the UK should celebrate a COVID-safe Christmas to interviewing an animator and second world war survivor while also talking about their favourite films and music. Finally, the team worked collaboratively to edit the recorded material into a 30 minute podcast.



Listen to the podcast [here!](#)

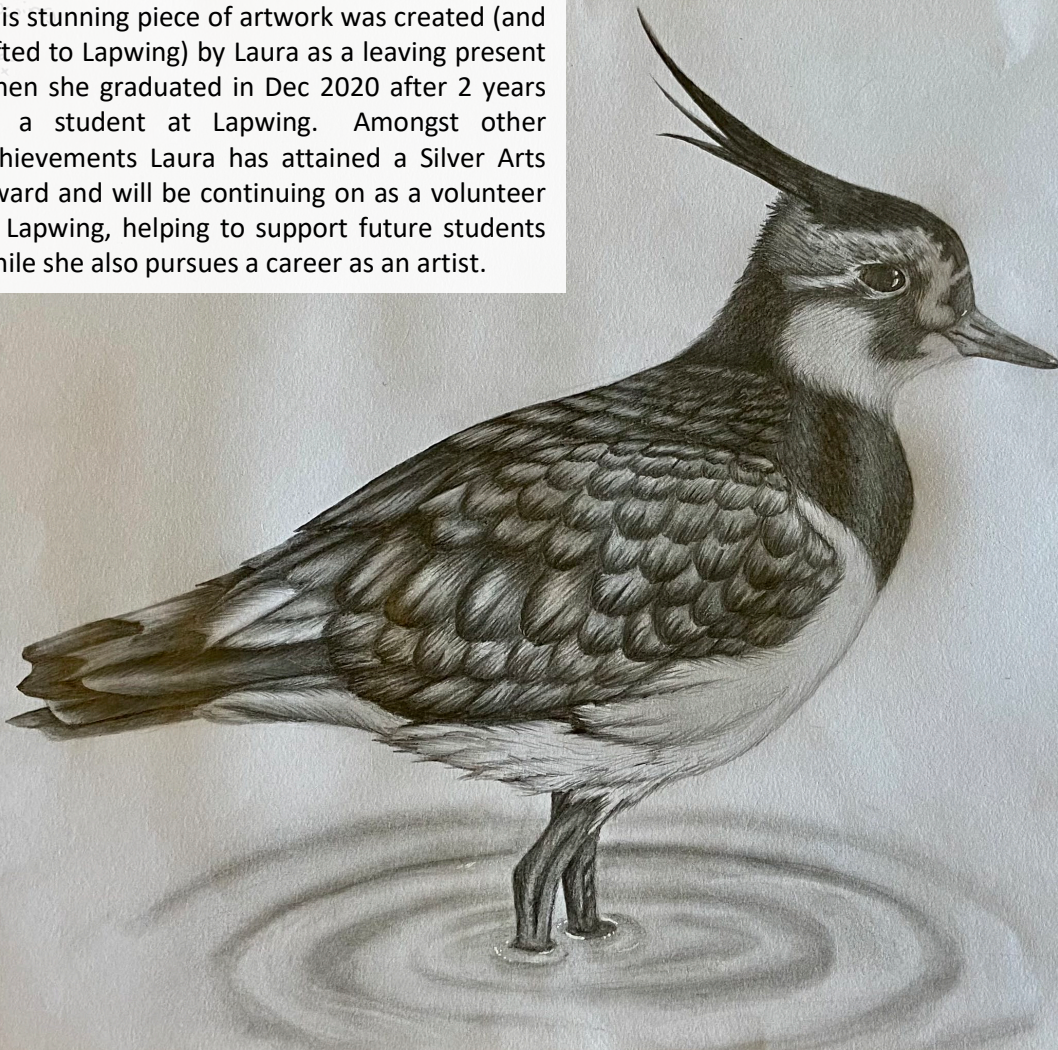


"The most valuable thing that the students gained from the project, was working as part of a team, which was a challenge for all involved but one they successfully lived up to. Hopefully they will all benefit from the experience and be more open to taking part in more group projects in the future."

Adam Ciappi, Lapwing tutor, co-ordinated the group media project.

★★★ LAPWING SHOWCASE ★★★

This stunning piece of artwork was created (and gifted to Lapwing) by Laura as a leaving present when she graduated in Dec 2020 after 2 years as a student at Lapwing. Amongst other achievements Laura has attained a Silver Arts Award and will be continuing on as a volunteer at Lapwing, helping to support future students while she also pursues a career as an artist.



Homemade pasta is just one of the delicious dishes recently made by Ben (16 years old), as well as chicken teriyaki, spring rolls, fish cakes, beef wellington, chocolate soufflé and crème brûlée.



Ben has recently passed his Level 2 food safety and hygiene course, and has recently been offered a place on a catering course at college!



Student of the month!

Student of the month for February, Brenden, completely renovated Include School's garden in Ipswich to the delight of the pupils, and has been carrying out excellent work at the Active Lives' People's Community Garden in Ipswich, including garden maintenance, nature conservation, and woodwork. Brenden's confidence and communication skills have really improved as he has shown visitors around and speaks with real pride on what he has achieved.

Lapwing maintain 100% pass rate on English and Maths exams since Sep 2019!



It has been a busy term for exams at Lapwing, with congratulations going to the following students:

- CP – Level 2 maths
- PM – Level 1 maths
- KC – Entry Level 1 maths
- JC – Level 1 maths
- BL – Entry Level 3 maths
- DF – Level 2 English
- RL – Level 2 English
- LH – Level 2 reading & writing
- MS – Level 1 English
- JC – Level 1 reading
- EA – Entry Level 3 reading
- KC – Entry Level 2 reading

Congratulations also go to Deacan and Joe who have achieved a Silver Arts Award (Level 2). An impressive achievement that has taken months of hard work and application.

“Fun at the Village Hall”



Ivan (Entry Level 1 learner) has created an entertaining stop-motion animation, complete with music and voice over. Watch the full animation on the Lapwing [website!](#)

“To think that last summer I didn't know what I wanted to do and thought I had no future and now I've applied to college, I know what I'd like to do and I even think I might go to university now!” – Henry (Year 11)

Henry has been selected as Student of the Month for March, for his commitment to his education programme including studying hard to complete 5 mock GCSE papers which will contribute towards his teacher assessed GCSE grades.

Henry's parents recently wrote to Lapwing to say: “We would like to thank the team working with Henry – they have all been amazing and it's down to every single one of them that he is totally transformed! Henry is a different person, full of aspirations for the future; we really didn't think we would get there this quickly.”



For regular updates, follow Lapwing on social media!

Minding the Gap Update

During lockdown, the Minding the Gap Team have been working hard to maintain contact with the young people participating in the project, organising activity hubs to develop communication skills, and promote teamwork and self belief in their own abilities. These have included online cake baking tutorials, virtual reflexology workshops and arts and crafts projects.

Contact the MTG team (see details below) for forthcoming events, involving all sorts from employability workshops to practical horticulture projects at the Lapwing allotment.

Minding the Gap is for 16-24 year olds, who are not in employment, education or training (NEET), and would benefit from careers guidance, jobsearch support or gaining access to educational pathways. For further information or to make a referral, see the Lapwing [website](#) or contact: cflowers@lapwingeducation.com

Minding the Gap is funded by:



Lapwing Staff Updates

Since January Lapwing has welcomed six new tutors – Julian, Anusha, Michelle, Sadie, Mandy and Tony (based in Suffolk and Norfolk), as well as Claire, our new Project Manager for the Minding the Gap project.

Demand for Lapwing's services continues to be high and we are always on the look out for skilled practitioners with suitable experience of teaching and working with children and young people with complex needs. Look on our [website](#) for further details.

Summer newsletter – what's in the next edition?

... A progress report from our weekly art group where approximately 10 Suffolk students will complete a range of art activities in a group environment.

... An update on Lapwing's outdoor learning offer. We are now the proud tenants of two allotments with a new plot in Norwich to complement our Ipswich plot!

... And much, much more!

Term Dates 2021

Summer Term

Monday 12th April 2021 – Thursday 22nd July 2021

Half Term: 31st May – 4th June

The Autumn Term for the 2021-22 academic year will start on: **Monday 6th September 2021**
(Staff Training Days on 2nd/3rd Sept)



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