

Towards Tomorrow: always

What keeps planes in the air is constantly moving forwards. It's the flow of air that gives the lift and sets us flying. We're seeing something similar at college. Standing still, going backwards, entraps.

I see that in the physical space. We've now a well-established programme to redecorate and rejuvenate corridors and rooms every few years. Everyone notices just how light and bright Westminster now is compared to its older reality. It's refreshed paintwork and improved surfaces and lighting that people see and enjoy. We've continued to improve wheelchair access with a new path, beautifully echoing the Woolf landscaping, running to the Art Studio.

We've shaped a quiet garden corner in the same area with new raised beds and planting. It all works together to speak of a place that's loved. It says a louder welcome.

So it is with people across our team. Without everyone at Westminster the college cannot thrive and will never fly. I know from all I see daily and from the constant flow of gloriously positive feedback that all of us, collectively, give life to Westminster. Cleaning rooms and making beds matters every bit as much as teaching a Federation class or peeling potatoes. Being on a committee, welcoming at the front door, cutting the grass all play essential parts in setting Westminster free



to fully flourish. And many amongst us have grown into new jobs or changed roles here. Students are learning and discovering more of their own callings here. Visitors and guests go away changed, invariably for the better.

So it is with plans. Whether it's how we'll reshape teaching around block weeks or the ambition to launch a gap year programme for URC young adults, whether it's fresh ideas for events or new ways of relating to our alumni we're stretching ourselves; reaching into tomorrow.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Welcoming URC Ministers



In March we reinvented something wonderful. We held the first annual URC Ministers' Refresher Course in quite a few years. One of my first memories of Westminster was attending something similar after my first three years as a minister. It changed the course of my life. As you'll have seen from the feedback, they loved it. About half of the group had not

been inside the college since the development. The hospitality, programme, accommodation, food, welcome and space were all received with delight. We'll run two more ahead of a year in which the URC will gather all of its ministers in one place. I hope we'll then continue. Helping our ministers to be renewed to serve wisely, well and with joy is core Westminster purpose. Having them as ambassadors telling others across the churches of all we can offer is vital. Thank you for making it happen. Here's to next time!

