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## **Urmston**

A Science and Language College with Academy status



September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

**Dear Parents & Students** 

I do hope you and your families are healthy and coping in these challenging times.

As you are aware the Covid pandemic and subsequent closure of school meant we had to postpone the Year 10 residential, which was planned for May. We have rebooked for November, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>.

You might have read that OfQUAL had the opportunity to remove fieldwork from the 2021 examinations as one of their options to reduce the workload / content for the current Year 11 students. Please be aware that Geography did not benefit from any reduction in workload / content, instead the fieldwork section on the exam will simply be re-worded. Previously students would see questions that referred to their own fieldwork experiences, now it might read as a more generic question, removing the 'own fieldwork experience' element. The days in Wales are therefore as vital as they ever were and our expectation remains that all students will participate.

There are a few things to note at this stage, firstly the centre has transferred payments made thus far and we do now need any final payments to be made. Please can you check Parentpay and make any necessary payments as soon as possible. Transport costs were added in April, during lockdown, and so these might have escaped your attention. Secondly the new November dates are not long before the Year 11 mock examinations are likely to take place, students will need to bear this in mind when planning revision. Lastly November will not give us the lovely sunny weather May might have done, students will need to be prepared to work in cold, wet weather – the centre provides wet weather outer layers.

Whilst I am contacting you regarding the fieldtrip, it seems prudent to mention the forthcoming Progress Tests (week beginning 21st September). We will test pre-lockdown topics of ecosystems, urban futures and distinctive landscapes, revisiting each of these briefly in class prior to the tests.

Yours faithfully

C Bramwell

Ms C Bramwell (Head of Geography)



Principal: Mrs R S Wall A Science and Language College with Academy status

