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## Urmston

A Science and Language College with Academy status



02 October 2020

Dear Parents & Year 11 Geography Students

I do hope you and your families are healthy and coping in this challenging time.

As you know in March I postponed the Year 10 residential, which was planned for May, accepting November dates (Monday 9th – Wednesday 11th November 2020), and until now my plan was to go ahead with this rescheduled trip.

However, after much discussion with the centre I have taken the difficult decision to cancel the residential. Whilst the centre and I are confident the students would be safe; much of our time would be spent outdoors, and hygiene standards would prevent transmission; we acknowledge current Government guidance and worry about the long nights spent in close proximity with students not in their own family bubbles.

I have already spoken with the finance department and we have begun the time consuming process of seeking refunds, which we are confident we will receive. Please be patient whilst we organise this.

I'm sure the students will be disappointed, but I do intend to plan two individual days of fieldwork for Year 11, which may be on the November dates or else later in the Spring. There will be some costs involved such as coaches and equipment and potentially extra staff, but it is likely to be less than the residential trip. As soon as I have more details I will be in touch again. Ofqual did not remove the fieldwork element (or indeed any element!) of the external examination so students will still be tested on fieldwork on Papers 1 & 2, it is therefore vital that we carry out some fieldwork to allow students their best chance of success in the Summer exams.

Academy status

Yours Faithfully

C Bramwell

Ms C Bramwell

(Head of Geography)



