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A Science and Language College with Academy status



23 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: History Department Trip to WWI Battlefields - France and Belgium

I hope this letter finds you and those around you safe and well.

It is with huge sadness that I write to you today to inform you that we have taken the decision to cancel the Year 9 History trip to France and Belgium this year. We had given some consideration to postponing the trip to later in the year but, given the huge uncertainty that comes with a global pandemic and given that we have not, at this point, paid the initial deposits to the hotels, we came to the conclusion that cancellation was our only option at this juncture. There is simply no guarantee that government restrictions on residential school trips will be lifted in time for a spring or summer trip.

There is a small chance of being able to rebook the trip for July if some sort of guaranteed normality returns in the early spring but this probably remains a very faint hope. Please be assured that if it looks as if we can take the group to the WWI sites safely then I will do my best to make it happen this academic year. I would also like to hold out the possibility of an exciting foreign trip for Year 10 History students in the academic year 2021/22. Again, I cannot offer any guarantees at this point, but we are passionate about students having these sort of opportunities and we will work towards that goal next year.

Urmston Grammar will return to you all monies paid into Parent Pay for the trip in due course, but I would ask for your patience with this matter while we complete all the necessary administration.

Thank you for your support and, once again, I am very sorry to have had to take this decision at this time.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew McPartland (Head of Humanities) Mmcpartland@urmstongrammar.org.uk



