



Urmston Grammar School

Monday 13th July

RE: End of Year Summary

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we fast approach the end of the summer term, I am writing to you to reflect on the year that has just passed and celebrate a number of our students' successes. This is also an opportunity to bid farewell to colleagues who are leaving Urmston Grammar and explain arrangements for the final day of term.

Since September our students have shown exceptional levels of **participation** within lessons, in a wide range of extra and super-curricular activities, and in a whole host of educational trips and visits. This year 96% of all students have attended at least one educational visit, and 97% have been involved in one or more club, team or society.

All of our extra-curricular activities fall under one of the six categories listed below:

1. Performing Arts
2. Creative Arts
3. Sports and Fitness
4. Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths
5. Culture
6. Community & Hobbies

To celebrate the students who capitalise on these opportunities for personal development, a new reward system is being introduced to recognise such high levels of engagement. In our end of year assembly 222 students who have participated in activities which fall into two of the above categories will receive a Bronze Award. Silver Awards will be given to 210 students who have been involved in clubs and societies which span between three or four of these areas. Finally, Gold Awards will be presented to 75 students who have engaged in so many extra-curricular opportunities they have spanned across at least five of these themes. I hope students will wear their badges with **pride**, and this will inspire and motivate all students to make the most of all the character development initiatives available to them.

There have been over 60 educational visits take place this year. During the summer term our students have been to Chester Zoo, the Museum of Science & Industry, Paris, Munich, Liverpool, London, Manchester Central Mosque, Oxford University and the valleys of North Wales. Over 150 students have completed DofE Expeditions, Year 10 and 12 students have spent a week on Work Experience placements across the northwest, and in this final week of term a group of 40 sixth form students are off on their expedition to Kenya. Urmston Grammar is a fantastic place to learn and thrive, but venturing beyond our school gates truly brings education alive. I would like to share my sincere thanks to all colleagues who have gone above and beyond in creating such a phenomenal range of enrichment opportunities for our students throughout the year.

The end of a school year inevitably means we say goodbye to some members of our school community. I wish our outgoing Year 13 cohort the very best for their futures and look forward to seeing them on A Level results day (**8.00am on Thursday 13th August**) when their post-18 pathways will be confirmed. Similarly, our Year 11s are currently enjoying some well-deserved freedom following the completion of the summer exams. I am eagerly anticipating GCSE



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results day (**9.30am on Thursday 20th August**) and hope to see many of our Year 11s enrolling to complete their A Levels at Urmston Grammar Sixth Form.

Regarding our staff, we say goodbye to Mrs Arshad who has been part of our Biology Department for the last 18 months, and we wish Ms Jones a very happy retirement after 8 years as our School Receptionist. Our Head of German, Mr Cummins, is departing having secured a promotion; we wish him well in this next step in his career. Finally, Mrs Kinder, our Head of Sociology and Careers Lead is moving on after 21 years teaching at Urmston Grammar. We wish her a very fond farewell and the best of luck for her next adventure.

At the end of my first year as Headteacher of Urmston Grammar I would like to thank all parents, carers and members of our school community for your ongoing support. Feedback from the student, parents & carer and staff surveys this year indicates there are very high levels of satisfaction across all stakeholders. I look forward to continually improving our school and seeking new strategies to ensure every student benefits from the best possible education. In the next academic year, it is highly likely we will have a routine inspection from Ofsted. I look forward to showcasing all that is great about Urmston Grammar School during this visit and gaining their external validation.

The last day of term is Friday 17th July. This will be a shortened day and students will be dismissed after our End of Year assembly at approximately 12.30pm.

I wish you and your families a restful and relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely

Mr T Kennedy-Fowler
Headteacher