



July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

GCSE Geography Fieldwork, River Chess

Thank you for your patience regarding an update on your son/daughter's GCSE Geography fieldwork day to the River Chess. As you know, our visits were due to take place on 3 and 5 June 2020, but were postponed due to restrictions in travel and school closures because of Covid-19.

You may have read in the press that Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) are in the process of carrying out a consultation for the 2021 exam series. We expect the results of this to be published in early September, at which time we will hear whether or not delivery of this fieldwork day is required.

In order for us to be as flexible as possible with this day of fieldwork, we have agreed with the Field Studies Centre in Amersham (who were facilitating the day) to postpone this until the Spring term 2021. This will allow us time to deliver the fieldwork and classroom follow-up, if it is required, ahead of the summer exams, but also allows us time to change plans/cancel following the Ofqual decision/government advice. Please do be reassured that we have revised the delivery of our GCSE this term to accommodate any possible changes in timing of the fieldwork days required and we will have ample time to complete all elements of the GCSE Geography papers.

I am sorry that we are not currently able to give you a definitive decision regarding this trip but hope you understand that this is an ever-changing situation. Once the results of the consultation are published, and we have been given confirmation of any changes to the 2021 exam series in Geography, we will be back in touch.

In the meantime, if you have any queries regarding this trip or the wider GCSE Geography qualification please do contact me by email: vlindop@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mrs V Lindop
Head of Geography