



ABINGDON

From the Head of Geography: Amy Donnelly

11 September 2020

Dear Parents

Upper Sixth Geography - NEA (Non Examined Assessment)

During the summer term of their Lower Sixth year, Geographers would normally attend a four day residential fieldtrip which would form the basis of their Independent Investigation or NEA (Non Examined Assessment). As a consequence of measures beyond our control, this trip was cancelled and will not be replaced this term. OCR, the exam board your son is studying his Geography A Level with, has specified that the compulsory four days of fieldwork which would normally be a requirement for the A Level, need not be completed. However, pupils must still conduct an Independent Investigation (NEA) locally and in full.

During the summer term we were able to make significant progress on the teaching of the exam content, commencing the 'Power and Borders' and 'Earth Hazards' topic well ahead of time. However, the cancellation of the fieldwork trip and the restructuring of the order of teaching means that it is possible we will be teaching through until the exam period next summer. In order to assist boys, from the Lent term onwards, we will be offering revision clinics either in person or on Zoom, for pupils who require additional help or who would like to go over specific topics. These are open to all A Level Geographers and details will follow about their timing and format.

Additionally, pupils will be expected to conduct research for their NEA over the half term break this October, which may require travel to localised areas to conduct fieldwork. Pupils will have been briefed on the safety requirements they must undertake when conducting any fieldwork, and their methodologies will have been checked by teachers prior to the commencement of half term. Pupils will not be allowed to conduct face to face interviews or questionnaires but must do any qualitative data collection of this kind through an online forum or with strict social distancing measures in place.

If you have any concerns or questions about this, please do get in touch.

Kind Regards

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