

Our Ref TOU/KEG

26 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may have seen in the news, the National Education Union (NEU) has voted for strike action for teaching staff on 1 February 2023.

Teaching staff at our school have a legal right to take part in the planned strike action, however, it is important to emphasise that the dispute and strike action is not specific to our school. The industrial action is in relation to the NEU's dispute with the Government over the nationally agreed pay rises when taking into account the pressures faced by staff with the increased cost of living which we are all experiencing. It is a national issue, affecting all schools in England.

At this stage we do not definitively know how the planned strike action might impact our school. To assist with our planning, we have written to all teaching staff to ask them to confirm whether or not they intend to take part. There is no legal obligation on staff to respond, but we are hoping many will do so, so we have a better understanding of who intends to work on the planned strike days.

There is also a risk that teaching and support staff at our school might be impacted if their own children's school is closed. It is possible that some staff may need to take last minute time off to care for their own children, as a result of actions outside of our control.

Please be assured we have looked at this situation and tried to do everything reasonably possible to keep the school open. However due to the expected staff shortages, we have decided to keep the school open for Year 7, Year 11 and Sixth Form students **ONLY**.

All other year groups (Y8,9 & 10) will have a resource booklet available to them to complete at home, this will be available online or a paper copy will be available for them to collect on Tuesday 31st January.

Year 7 students need to attend school in their PE kit (they will remain in PE kit all day). They will take part in a carousel of PE, Art, DT and Food.

Year 11 will take part in an essential drop-down revision day, completing a carousel of Maths, English, Science, RSE and How to Revise.

Sixth Form students will complete independent study.

Our Catering company, Chartwells, will be providing food throughout breaks and lunchtimes as usual for all students within school.

If your child is in Years 8, 9 or 10 and in receipt of free school meals and would like to come in at lunchtime (12:30 – 13:00) for a hot meal, they are more than welcome. They must wear full school uniform and enter and exit through the main reception only.

Kind Regards,



Tom Urwin
Principal