

Ref: TOU/KEG

24<sup>th</sup> April 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 **27<sup>th</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May 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 considering 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 know definitively 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 very carefully, to do everything reasonably possible to keep the school open for all, however due to the expected staff shortages, we have decided to keep the school open for **selected Year 10 BTEC students (who have already been informed), all of Year 11 with students in full and correct uniform. Plus Year 12 & 13 students.**

All other year groups (Y7, Y8, Y9 & Y10) 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 **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April**.

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 7, 8, 9 or 10 and in receipt of free school meals and would like to come in at lunchtime (13:30 – 14:00) for a hot meal, they are more than welcome. They must wear full school uniform and enter and exit through the main reception only.

Please note there will be no GER or detentions on these dates.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Urwin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Tom Urwin**  
**Principal**