
Wednesday 8th March

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am sure you are aware that the final dates of the planned NEU strike action are 15th and 16th March. We have completed further risk assessments for these particular days and are sorry to advise you that we have no choice but to partially close again on both days.

As always, our priority is to ensure the school can operate safely and although we have a better understanding of anticipated staff absence, we will not know exactly how many teachers we have on site until the actual days. Furthermore, we know that some staff not taking strike action have children at other schools who are affected by strike action, which will result in additional staff absence.

In order to minimise the impact across all year groups, we have taken the difficult decision to remain open to the following years:

- **Wednesday 15th March we are open to Year 11, Year 8 and Year 7 pupils only.**
- **Thursday 16th March we are open to Year 11, Year 9 and Year 7 pupils only.**

In addition to prioritising Year 11 pupils due to the proximity of GCSE examinations and Year 7 pupils due to childcare, we have reached this decision by looking at which classes are most likely to be affected and therefore have the most amount of cover across the two days. On this occasion, Year 10 would be most affected, and we will therefore set independent work for them to complete at home. Details of this will be sent out at the start of next week. Equally, we will send work that can be completed at home by Year 8 and 9 pupils on the relevant days.

Like the previous strike day, we will condense lunch into one sitting on both days. As a result, Year 9 pupils will have lunch at 12.35pm until 1.15pm on Thursday 16th March. To confirm, the usual school transport arrangements will be in place. However, school clubs will be cancelled unless Year 11 pupils are told differently by teachers running Period 6 revision sessions. On the strike days, pupils will attend form time and lessons as normal and if a teacher is absent, pupils will be taught, where possible, by a senior member of staff and subject specialist.

Please note that pupils who would normally receive a free school meal will receive a top up of £3 to their free school meal voucher that will be provided for the Easter term break.

We are sorry for any disruption this may cause and as always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Michaela Blackledge
Headteacher

