



Dear Parent/Carer,

30th January 2023

NEU Strike Action, Wednesday 1st February 2023

As you are aware from my letter last week, I have had to make the decision to close the school to Year 7-10 students this Wednesday due the national strike action by members of the NEU. This decision is based on safety grounds, as there will not be enough staff to supervise the students.

This letter provides details of how learning activities / work will be set for students on the strike day:

Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 students should stay at home on Wednesday 1st February.

Students in Year 7 – 10 will be provided with work via the Satchel One Show my Homework platform. They are all used to having homework set on this platform. Teachers who are not striking will set work for students in line with the topic areas they are currently working on. Students will be able to use the message function in Show my Homework to ask any questions or get clarification from teachers who are not striking during that lesson time.

Teachers who are taking industrial action will not set work on Show my Homework. However, work for these classes will be set centrally and will appear on SMHW. This may be more general work but will reflect the current topics they are studying.

All Year 7-10 students have had a video assembly giving them this information and guiding them to get up and log on to SMHW on Wednesday morning and work their way through their tasks lesson by lesson over the course of the normal school day.

Year 11 students should attend school as normal on Wednesday 1st February.

Year 11 students will follow their normal timetabled lessons for the day. Many of these lessons will be with their normal class teachers who will continue with appropriate work. A proportion of lessons will need to be supervised by other members of the school staff. Appropriate work / learning activities will be set in lessons where students do not have their normal teacher. These activities will concentrate on consolidating learning and undertaking revision type activities. Year 11 students were spoken to in assembly last Friday and told the following:

- They should arrive at school at the normal time and in full uniform
- They should come prepared for their normal lessons on Wednesday with all relevant equipment
- They need to ensure they have work booklets, homework books (Science) and revision resources for their subjects. Some staff may have already instructed them on what work they need to do prior to Wednesday
- If necessary we will put students in a computer room to give them wider access to learning resources e.g. BBC bitesize, Hegarty maths etc

Year 11 students have also been told that, should the future strike days go ahead, we will use those dates to do the English Literature mock exam and the full 3 papers of the Maths mock exam. We normally do these final mock exams in March on the run up to Easter. By putting them on the strike days, we will protect teaching time by not having to have Year 11 out of lessons for these mock exams later in the term. The English and maths departments will ensure students are prepared to do these by the dates concerned. It will be essential for all of Year 11 to attend for these mock exams, as it is their final chance to rehearse ready for the summer.

Year 12 and 13 students should attend school as normal on Wednesday 1st February.

Year 12 and 13 students will follow their normal timetabled lessons for the day. Many of these lessons will be with their normal class teachers who will continue with appropriate work. Where they do not have their normal class teacher, they should complete independent study in the 6th Form Centre. Both Year 12 and 13 students are a few days away from their mock exams so all should be able to bring appropriate revision materials.

The arrangements outlined above are for Wednesday 1st February only. Further strike action is planned for Wednesday 1st March, Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March. Should these go ahead, I will write to you prior to each one outlining the plans for that specific strike day.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Park
Head of School

