

8 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware from my previous letter that the National Education Union (NEU) is taking industrial action in the form of strike action, with the next planned strikes days being **Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March 2023**. This action is not against our school, but is part of national industrial action organised by the NEU regarding pay and school funding.

We wanted to give you advanced warning of the planned strikes as we anticipate, based on the experience of the previous strike days, that they will cause disruption to our school. We have a significant number of staff who are members of the NEU and this action will again result in a partial closure.

Please be informed that, in preparing for strike action, we must consider the fact that:

- There is no requirement for a union to inform their employer which or how many members of staff will take strike action
- Union members are under no obligation to inform employers of their union membership, or to inform employers in advance of their intention to strike.

As mentioned previously, our priority is to ensure the school can operate safely, and within our legal and statutory frameworks. The school will therefore remain open for Year 11, 12 and 13 students only on Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March 2023, assuming the strikes go ahead as planned. The usual school transport arrangements and lunchtime provision will be in place. However, school clubs will be cancelled.

Please see below the plan we have put in place for these year groups:

Year 11

Students will start the day with an information assembly and should line up outside the Riding Canteen entrance at the start of registration, in their form groups, as they would for any weekly House assembly. Following this, students will attend their GCSE lessons as normal throughout the day. If they have a lesson during the day where their teacher is absent, they will receive an appropriate core programme of study.

Year 12 and 13

Students should attend their timetabled lessons as normal throughout the day. If they have a lesson during the day where their teacher is absent, they will be directed to study independently in either the Learning Resource Centre or one of our designated study spaces. During this time they can work on any coursework they have upcoming deadlines for, or complete independent revision for their A Level examinations.

Years 7 to 10

For all students in Years 7 to 10, we will share further details at the start of next week with information and links to online work that students are able to complete at home. Please note that students 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 half term break.

Again, we are sorry for any disruption this may cause. It is our hope that this issue can be resolved as soon as possible and we will be in touch again soon.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Williman', written in a cursive style.

Richard Williman
Headteacher