



Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: NEU Industrial Action 15th/16th March

The final dates that have been announced as days of industrial action from the National Education Union (NEU) affecting our area are to take place next week, unless they are called off.

The detail in this letter refers to – **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.**

Based on the information I have regarding the number of staff in the NEU and those who have shared their intention, which they are not required by law to do, I confirm that the plan is to **partially open** on both days.

In making this decision, I have needed to consider the ability for remaining staff in school to run the school safely. All staff not taking strike action will be working in school on this day.

It is important to note, in the plans that follow, some staff may not be available due to strike action, others may not be in school for other reasons. Some staff will need to manage the alternative day that will be taking place in school. Our focus is to maximise education for those closest to their GCSE and A Level examinations with a bespoke programme.

Please note the change to lunch provision on page two of this letter.

Years 12 and 13 – all students must attend school normally. If the teacher for a lesson is not available, students will continue their independent study in the Sixth Form Centre for that lesson.

Years 12/13 Parents' Evening – Thursday 16th March. Please make your appointments in the usual way on School Cloud for this online event. On the morning of 16th March, we will need to cancel appointments for any teacher not in school on the day, this is usual practice for staff who are ill for example. It is not possible to re-schedule this event, though this has been explored. Staff will always contact home where they have concerns about a student's progress at any stage in the course.

Year 11– **All students will be expected in school on both days for their GCSE mocks at 8.30am, we have been able to move the exams that were postponed due to snow, to Thursday 16th March.**

Students will leave site after their exams unless they have been requested by a department for the remainder of either or both of Wednesday and Thursday.

A separate email will reach parents and carers before the end of Monday 13th March with the details for your child for both exams and additional sessions. The students in school beyond

their mocks, will be working intensively with a named department on their coursework or other exam focused tasks for a subject or subjects.

If a student needs to remain in school to catch a bus at the end of the day on either day, they should speak to Mrs Wilmot in advance so we can arrange for them to be supervised.

All Year 11 students who have free school meals should pick up their packed lunch in the break between exams in the morning.

Years 7, 8, 9,10

Learning will be online remotely using our Teams on O365. Students should log into each lesson of the five lessons at the correct time.

If a teacher for a class is available, they will join the lesson within 5 minutes of the start of the lesson to support learning live and provide an assignment. Staff may use the audio and the chat facility but will not use the camera.

We will have a range of activities posted for students who do not have a teacher available. Students without a teacher should visit the “Tutor Team” and then into their “Year” to collect tasks. 5 tasks for each day will be available and can be accessed even if student’s teachers are available but they want more.

In addition, several students in Years 7 to 11 will be attending school for the day, separate contact will be made for this group.

Accessing Office 365 Online

If your child cannot access O365 on the internet, please contact your child’s Head of Academic Progress before 3pm on Monday to allow us to support you to resolve issues, or to provide printed materials to your child.

Our guide to installing the free set of Office tools at home is [here](#) on our website.

Lunch

Students on free school meals will have a packed lunch waiting for them at morning break on both days in the restaurant.

Students in receipt of **free meals in Years 7-10** will have a voucher for the two missed meals added to the voucher released for the Easter break in three weeks’ time. This will give a total of three days added to the Easter voucher for the 1st, 15th and 16th of March.

Students in receipt of free school meals in **Year 11** will have a voucher for the one missed meal from the strike day of the 1st March added to the voucher released for the Easter break in three weeks’ time.

All other students in school will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks as the restaurant will be closed on both days.

I appreciate that this strike action may present some practical difficulties for parents and carers. Please be reminded that if your child has been told to attend school, you have a legal



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duty to ensure you send your child to school on days when strike action is being taken, regardless of parental choice or the closure of other classes or year groups in school.

Thank you in advance for your patience whilst I try and take all reasonable steps to keep the school open and learning happening for as many students as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Pearson
Headteacher

