

Dear Parents and Carers,

NEU Strike Action

The National Education Union (NEU) intend to hold a number of strike days for their teacher members this term, 4 of which will affect our school:

There are 4 dates that affect our school:

- Wednesday 1 February (England and Wales)
- Wednesday, 1 March (East Midlands, Western, Eastern regions)
- Wednesday 15 March (England and Wales)
- Thursday 16 March (England and Wales)

The detail in this letter refers only to the first strike date – **Wednesday 1st February**.

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 Wednesday 1st February.

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, and some staff will need to manage the alternative day that will be taking place in school. Our focus for the 1st February is to maximise education for those closest to their GCSE and A Level examinations with a bespoke programme.

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.

Year 11 and Year 10 – a large number of students will be expected in for the day or part day. A separate email will reach parents and carers before the end of Monday next week with the details for your child. The students in school will be working intensively with a named department on their coursework or other exam focused tasks for a subject or subjects.

Some Year 11 students have an **external GCSE exam** on the 1st February, this group **must** arrive in school for 8.40am as normal. We will be contacting the families of this group separately.

Years 7, 8, 9 and all other Year 10 and 11 students

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 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 in receipt of **free meals** will have a voucher for 6 meals released to them for the half-term, this being 5 due for the half-term plus one for the strike day on the 1st February.

Students in school will be able to access the normal lunch and break facilities, with a reduced service to reflect the number expected in school.

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

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Pearson
Headteacher