

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: NEU Industrial Action Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May

Year 10, 11, 12 and 13

Two further dates have been announced as days of industrial action from the National Education Union (NEU) unless they are called off. The first of these is Thursday 27th April, with the second being Tuesday 2nd May.

The detail in this letter refers to – **both Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**

Presentation Evening on the night of the 27th April, for those families who have already been invited, is **not** affected by this action.

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.

For these two dates, the NEU have stated:

“Given the proximity of our next strike days to the public examinations, the NEU recognises that it is appropriate to seek agreements with head teachers that permit exam year students (year 11 and 13) to attend school on our 27 April and 2 May strike days for revision activities or exam practice.”

We have worked with the NEU to give Year 11 and Year 10 with exams, as well as Year 13 as much lesson time as possible – in reality this has not translated into two full days of lessons for all students in exam years.

We will be sending your child’s personal timetable for both days to you by the end of Tuesday 25th April to allow you to plan.

For students in Year 10 and 11 We will be asking you to complete a Forms Survey to share if your child will be staying in school or leaving site for sessions where there is no lesson planned. This will support us in planning suitable venues for students to work independently but supervised.

Students who have not had a parent complete the Forms Survey will need to remain on site for the full day.

Where a lesson is not taking place in school – students should go to Teams to see if a teacher has left materials for them.

Photography and Art GCSE exams

The Year 11 Photography GCSE is all day on Thursday 27th April

The Year 11 Art GCSE is all day on Tuesday 2nd May

These are compulsory exams for your child, nationally across the country. They cannot be moved, and it is not possible to miss the exam and have this repeated at a later date.

All students taking these subjects **MUST** be in school for their exam which will run as normal.

GCSE Languages Speaking Exams

Year 11 students with their speaking exam on either of the strike days **MUST** attend their exam as set out by their language teacher.

In making decisions, 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.

Lunch will be available for all students in school including students in receipt of free meals

Year 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. There will be more teachers taking lessons in person for these two days, due to the NEUs agreement to support exam groups.

In addition, several students in Year 10 and 11 will be attending school for the full day, regardless of lessons available, 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.

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 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

Headteacher