

Ref: MAG/ KEG  
26 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may have seen in the news, the National Education Union (NEU) has voted for strike action for teaching staff on 1 February 2023.

Teaching staff at our school have a legal right to take part in the planned strike action, however, it is important to emphasise that the dispute and strike action is not specific to our school. The industrial action is in relation to the NEU's dispute with the Government over the nationally agreed pay rises when taking into account the pressures faced by staff with the increased cost of living which we are all experiencing. It is a national issue, affecting all schools in England.

At this stage we do not know definitively how the planned strike action might impact our school. To assist with our planning, we have written to all teaching staff to ask them to confirm whether or not they intend to take part. There is no legal obligation on staff to respond, but we are hoping many will do so, so we have a better understanding of who intends to work on the planned strike days.

There is also a risk that teaching and support staff at our school might be impacted if their own children's school is closed. It is possible that some staff may need to take last minute time off to care for their own children, as a result of actions outside of our control.

Please be assured we have looked at this situation very carefully, to do everything reasonably possible to keep the school open for all, however due to the expected staff shortages, we have decided to keep the school open for Year 7 and Year 11 **ONLY**.

All other year groups (Y8,9 & 10) will have a resource booklet available to them to complete at home, this will be available online or a paper copy will be available for them to collect on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

Year 7 students will enjoy a day of PE, Geography Field Activities, Enterprise Activities, some Science Experiments and Personal Development workshops.

Year 11 will take part in an essential revision drop down day including; Maths, English, Science, Revision Skills and Exam Preparation. Plus enjoy some Sports Activities.

Our Catering company, Chartwells, will be providing food throughout breaks and lunchtimes as usual for all students within school.

If your child is in Years 8, 9 or 10 and in receipt of free school meals and would like to come in at lunchtime (13:30 – 14:00) for a hot meal, they are more than welcome. They must wear full school uniform and enter and exit through the main reception only.

Kind Regards,



Mark Gray  
Principal