



28th April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Industrial Strike Action Information

Thank you for your patience while I have been gathering information and planning for our approach to educational provision on **Tuesday 2nd May 2023**.

You will be aware from recent media coverage that teachers within the NEU have voted to take industrial strike action, following a national dispute between the unions and the government. Strike action is being taken for two reasons:

- 1) Pay increases being taken directly from current school budgets rather than the pay difference coming from central government, meaning less resources for our children and schools;
- 2) Teacher pay rises not being in line with inflation and therefore being equivalent to a pay cut.

Following the announcement of strike action by the NEU, I have decided on a course of action to manage the strike days and respect the personal decision made by any member of staff around their decision to strike or not.

I have made the decision to **close** the school to students in **years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 on Tuesday 2nd May 2023**. Students should remain at home. We will provide remote learning and this will be a blend of live lessons (by staff who are at work and not taking industrial action). Students should log on to Teams at 8.30am where they will see which lessons will be 'live' and which lessons they should study independently. It is important that students access this educational provision. If your child's teacher is not present within 10 minutes of the start of the lesson, they should log off and study independently.

The school **WILL BE OPEN** to students in Years 11 and 13 who should come into school (Year 11 in full school uniform) for a shortened day during which the students will be primarily focussing on their coursework. All students should arrive at school by 08:45am and go to their form rooms. The day will be condensed and finish at 1:10pm for the majority of students.

All **BTEC and GCSE Art** students will complete the first day of their Art exam in the Art Department; this is their final GCSE exam. These students will finish at **3:05pm**.

Lunch will not be provided; however there will be food available to purchase at break time and students eligible for free school meals will be able to collect a 'grab bag' from the Diner.

Students studying **French** will spend all day preparing for their speaking exams that are scheduled to take place on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th May and should come in equipped with their speaking booklets.

