

NW/VS/March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

NEU Strike Action

You will be aware of the Strike action in schools across England. This action will take place on, Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March. The strike action is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and school funding. It is not because of any specific issues at our school.

I am writing to you in order to provide you with as much notice as possible that school will be closed to all pupils except those we feel are better placed to be in school. We can only open the school if we have enough staff on site to keep everyone safe and I have made the decision to close to pupils except those who we have been in contact with.

We will offer sessions on Thursday for all of year 11 around exam preparation and an assessment. Year 10 pupils who will commence their work experience week on Monday 20th March will also be invited in by request. Please see below;

Wednesday 15 March 2023

Year 11

All pupils studying Art will be expected to attend school from 8.30-2pm. School will provide lunch for pupils on this day free of charge.

All pupils studying Design Technology will be expected to attend school from 8.30-2pm. School will provide lunch for pupils on this day free of charge.

Year 10

All pupils studying Health and Social care and Child Development will be expected to attend school from 8.30-2pm. School will provide lunch for pupils on this day free of charge.

Selected pupils studying **Business** will also be invited in at 8.30-10.30am – personal invites will be sent via Groupcall.

Thursday 16 March 2023

Year 11

All pupils will be expected in school from 8.30 and will take part in the following:

Period 1 – Revision Workshop

Period 2 & 3 – Science exam and Speaking and Listening exams (for some pupils) – pupils will be released after this exam.

All pupils studying **Art** will be expected to remain school until 2.50pm with the option of staying for lesson 6 as well. School will provide lunch for pupils on this day free of charge.

Careers and Work Experience support will also be available to **all pupils** in Yr 11 & 10 from 11.30 onwards in the Library.

Pupils are expected to arrive in school uniform.

The strike action against the Government relates to rising costs in school and the lack of funding to support children's education.

Therefore, as a direct result of these issues, many teachers in schools across the country will be choosing to strike. Not for their own pay particularly, but because they fear for the education profession in general and the impact sustained underfunding is having on their pupils and your children.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the teachers and support staff in our school. They work tirelessly for the good of every child in their care as well as our entire community. They give their time freely and care immensely about the children they work with.

Please be assured we are all **committed to providing a safe and secure environment for your child as well as delivering high-quality teaching in the classroom.**

If your child, primary or secondary, would like a warm meal or sandwiches these will be on offer in school from 12.10-12.50pm in the Secondary Canteen. Can pupils please inform their class teacher or form tutor by Tuesday of their intention to take up this offer so we can cater accordingly.

Yours faithfully

Neil Wilkinson

Mr Neil Wilkinson
Executive Headteacher