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Executive Principal Julia Patrick Associate Principal Alex Grainge

April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Industrial Strike Action - Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Unfortunately, there are now two further days of industrial action planned nationally on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May.

The NEU members have voted to strike following continuing concerns regarding a below inflation pay increase and funding concerns that have consequences for resources, recruitment and retention of high-quality staff across the sector.

As with previous strike days, we continue to monitor and evaluate plans and work with our local and regional union representatives alongside following guidance from the DfE. We appreciate that this is far from ideal and the NEU have pledged to work with schools to minimize disruption for those learners who are due to sit their GCSE and A level exams this summer.

Please urge your child to engage as fully as possible with the online learning and revision resources we have made available via the VLE.

Based on the information we have and to ensure the safety of all, we will be opening our on-site provision for Year 11 and Year 13 learners. We will contact you shortly about the plans for the on-site learning.

Online learning

Online learning will be planned for students in other year groups.

On April 27th and May 2nd learners will be sent links to online sessions delivered by their teachers who are working on this day following their usual timetable. There will be no remote tutor time on this day.

Where their teacher is absent they will **not** have a link for a lesson in their Teams calendar and learners will be sent links to online independent learning based on revision and retrieval of previously taught content in English, mathematics and science. Leaders have refreshed these online resources and we would strongly urge your child to engage with them. Revision of previous learning is shown to be essential for longer term understanding and we believe this is an opportunity to reinforce this important content.



Accessing on-site education

We can ensure that vulnerable learners such as those who are Looked After and those SEND learners with an EHCP and the children of critical workers are provided with on-site education as far as possible.

We know that not every teacher will be working and therefore, may not be able to safely accommodate every critical worker child on site.

For this reason, I ask that parents of critical workers only request for their child to be on the school site on April 27th and May 2nd if essential.

If demand is high and we cannot safely accommodate every critical worker child on the site with the staff available, we will reluctantly have to prioritise by the needs of each year group.

If you are a critical worker and require your child to be in school on April 27th or May 2nd, please complete the following form **by 3pm on Monday 24th April:** https://forms.office.com/e/Ddy2hAVFfx

I will write to all parents/carers again before next Thursday 27th April with further information regarding the access to home learning and of course, let you know if strike action is avoided and school will be open as usual.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mr A Grainge

Associate Principal