

Our ref: ljm/KDV/Correspondence

08 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: National Education Union (NEU) Strikes

It has been nearly two months since I first wrote to you regarding the planned NEU strikes and I wanted to again update you with a week to go until the next and currently, last planned strike days. The last two strike days have seen around sixty of our staff exercising their right to strike each day and this means that, should the planned strike action go ahead next week, we will be forced to close on **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March**. As I have said before, my first priority above all else must be the health and safety of our students and it is impossible for me to guarantee this with such a significant proportion of our workforce unavailable.

Since I first contacted you, the NEU have put out an information leaflet for parents and carers. If you would like to know any more about the reasons they have chosen to strike, the digital version of the leaflet can be found here: <https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view>

While, like you, I like in hope that the NEU and the Government will be able to have fruitful and amicable discussions that will avert this strike action it seems very unlikely at this point. I know that many of you will be wondering now about what will happen after next week. The truth is I do not know, but I am aware that three education unions are considering strike action and the NEU may announce further strike days in the weeks and months to come. This is of course all out of our control, but we will continue to talk to you about what we know and what we are able to offer during these periods of disruption.

Should the next two strike days go ahead, we will send out an update selection of resources to support your child in working independently during the closure days. We will of course provide workspace for our Year 11 and 13 students as we have done previously if they are lacking a suitable space at home, which may be the case with parents working from home and siblings not being at school.

I will confirm plans at the start of next week but as ever, I wanted to give you as much notice as possible about any possible closures so you are able to make plans.

Kind regards,

Mr. K Vernon
Head Teacher