Ref: 3362 LMA

27 January 2023

**Week Beginning 30 January 2023**

**Strike Action by Members of the National Education Union (NEU)**

Dear Parent,

As promised yesterday, I am writing to you before the weekend with an update about plans for next Wednesday, the first planned day of industrial action by the NEU.

Due to the high number of staff that are in the NEU, there will be major disruption to our school provision on this day.  We have completed a detailed risk assessment considering the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of our children, staff and visitors.

As a result of this assessment, ***we will offer face-to-face provision to cater for the individual needs of a small number of children***. If your child is in this group, you will receive an email with an invite into school and a link to an online form to register to confirm that your child is accepting or declining the offered place. This means everyone is accounted for and we know exactly who we will expect to attend next Wednesday at 8.45am. School buses will still run and if your child needs this service to get to school, please indicate this on the form.

***This means that for all other students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11, school will be closed on Wednesday***. If you have a specific concern about your child, especially if they are in Year 7 or 8 and their supervision on the day, please contact us and we will consider this on a case-by-case basis.

After the weekend we will:

* Update the students and you, in writing, with further information about the expectations around remote learning.
* Offer our students the chance to order a free school meal on Monday and Tuesday, if they are eligible. This will be a grab bag lunch which will need to be collected from school at 12.30pm on Wednesday.

Every school in the country, not least in our Trust, is in a completely unique position because of the number of staff who are in the NEU or other professional associations.  This means that the number of staff who have been called upon to take industrial action varies significantly between schools; every school will have to assess and manage their own particular circumstances.  Equally, this may also change from the first date to the final dates – there is no assumption from school that the arrangements that we may make for next week, will be the same for the proposed action in late February or March.  We will review our risk assessments and confirm our actions in writing, in advance of each of the strike days.

Further to this, next week we can confirm that we have:

* Thursday 2 February – Year 11 group photograph
* Thursday 2 February – Creatives Evening, 6.00-7.00pm

Your support continues to be appreciated and well received here in school.

Yours faithfully,

L MacLaren

Lucy MacLaren

**Headteacher**