

J/R/IndACT/MsM

20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

You will be aware that the teaching unions have been balloted to take Industrial Action. The National Education Union (NEU) have announced that they have reached the threshold required and that members have voted to hold seven days of strike action in February and March, though any individual school will only be affected by four of them. The proposed dates are as follows:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023;
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023;
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023;
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

We have also received guidance from the Department of Education on 'Handling Strike Action'. In this, there is an expectation that Headteachers and Trust Boards will take all reasonable steps to keep schools open for as many pupils as possible.

In doing this we need to take account of:

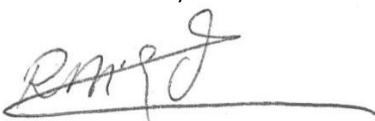
- Prioritising vulnerable children and young people.
- Prioritising children of critical workers.
- Consider prioritising pupils due to take public examinations and other formal assessments.
- Health and safety requirements.

To make a decision as to whether we can remain fully open or partially open, we need to gather some information over the coming days and undertake a full risk assessment.

We will endeavour to inform parents/carers as soon as possible of our arrangements for 1<sup>st</sup> February and for any of the subsequent strike dates. This will include any arrangements regarding the priorities listed above. As such, we would request that parents/carers do not contact the academy with regard to this currently.

We will contact you again as soon as we have any further information.

Yours faithfully



Mr R McGinty  
Headteacher