

**“it is not enough for children to be loved,  
they must know that they are loved”**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As I am sure that you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) which represents teachers has called a series of one-day strikes, the next one of these which affects schools in London is scheduled to take place tomorrow, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. Along with most schools in the country we will be affected by this industrial action. As I have mentioned in previous communication on this issue these strikes are the result of a dispute between the NEU and the government over teachers' pay and conditions and are not a dispute between the school and its teaching staff.

We delayed a final decision on arrangements for tomorrow in the hope that the dispute would be resolved but it appears that the strike will be going ahead. The school will be open tomorrow, but with a significant number of our teaching staff unavailable for work I have had to make contingency plans to ensure that those children who do come on site can be accommodated safely. For that reason, we have once again prioritised students taking public examinations this summer and some of our more vulnerable young people. As a result, the following will apply tomorrow:

- School will be open for students in years 10, 11 12 and 13. They should arrive at school as normal, no later than 8.35 am and will sit their PPE examinations as scheduled. They will have a lunch break in between the exams and will be dismissed after they have completed the second paper. For students in years 10, 11 and 12 dismissal time will be between 1.15 pm – 1.30 pm and dismissal time for students in year 13 will be between 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm.
- Students in years 7-9 will be expected to remain at home. They will be expected to spend the day revising for their PPE examinations. The PPE examinations that they miss on 2<sup>nd</sup> March will be rescheduled for Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.
- A small number of our more vulnerable students in years 7-9, will also be invited to attend on site. Parents will be contacted directly by relevant staff about this.
- Students in years 7-9, who receive Free School Meals (FSM) will receive food vouchers via the Wonde system.

I appreciate that having to close the school to a large proportion of our students is not ideal for parents and families, but I hope that you understand the reasons for this.

There are further strikes planned for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023, let's hope that the dispute is resolved by then. I will write to you nearer the time to inform you of any changes to our normal arrangements for these days.

Thank you for your continued support of the school.



Mr P. Dunne  
Headteacher