

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may already be aware, the government has failed to reach a settlement with the unions in the ongoing national dispute regarding teacher's pay. The National Education Union (NEU) have indicated that they are taking strike action on two further dates next week.

As a result of the industrial action:

- **On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, school will be closed to Year 9 pupils**
- **On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, school will be closed to Year 7 pupils**

I am now prioritising Year 10 pupils remaining in school, as they are our senior pupils and are moving into their final year before exams. Unfortunately, it has been necessary for me to close the school to Year 7 pupils for the first time during this period of industrial action. This is to ensure that the impact of the disruption is not unfairly felt by pupils in the other year groups.

Parents/carers of Year 7 and Year 9 pupils will therefore need to make alternative childcare arrangements on the relevant day. Pupils will be provided with activities to complete on Firefly (further details to follow).

As previously, a very small number of our most vulnerable Year 7 and Year 9 pupils will be invited into school on the relevant day. This will include pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or those children in the care of the local authority. These pupils will be supported in school to complete the work that other pupils will be doing at home. Parents/carers of pupils for whom this applies will be contacted separately.

Parents/carers of pupils in Year 7 and Year 9 eligible for free school meals will be contacted separately regarding the arrangements for obtaining lunch on the relevant day.

With the exception of Year 9 on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July and Year 7 on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July, all other pupils should attend school as normal. Whilst they will follow their usual timetable as far as possible, there is likely to be disruption to the school day for some pupils as a result of the industrial action. Pupils should therefore bring to school any current homework or revision work, as well as a reading book, in case there is a limited period during the school day when it will be necessary for them to work independently under staff supervision.

Thank you once again for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Marsden  
Headteacher