



24th April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Industrial action Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023

I am writing regarding the proposed industrial action by members of the National Education Union (NEU), which is due to take place on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023. Parents and carers may be aware that the latest round of negotiations between the government and teaching unions has, unfortunately, not resolved the current dispute. As a result, the NEU has planned for two further strike days over the coming days.

As I have previously shared, the dispute is not directed against the school itself, but is part of national industrial action and schools are likely to be impacted to varying degrees depending on the make-up of union membership and the number of NEU members taking action.

I am grateful that members of the NEU have informed me of their intentions, which has allowed me to plan for the two days. As Headteacher, I will always take all reasonable steps to keep the school open to as many students as possible whilst taking into consideration the need to ensure the health and safety of everyone on site. I have worked with the senior team on a risk assessment and it is clear that we will be **partially closed** for both days, and only students in **Years 11, 12 and 13** should attend school on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023.

Arrangements for students in Years 7-10

Students in Years 7-10 will need to remain at home on both Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023. I am, again, sorry for the disruption to you and your child. I am conscious that I have had to close the school for students in Years 8 and 9 for each of the dates affected by industrial action; we have tried to accommodate these year groups for this period of industrial action but I trust parents / carers can appreciate the need to prioritise students in Years 11 and 13 due to the upcoming external examinations.

Students in these year groups should study independently at home. Students in Years 7-10 should first check their subject Google Classroom for work and if work is not set, they should access independent learning activities for English, Maths and Science via the school website. This work will be posted on the website on Thursday morning before school.

Parents/carers of students in receipt of Free School Meals will receive a voucher for lunch on the days affected via email.

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Mr Gary Mullings BA (Hons)
Headteacher

Arrangements for students in Years 11-13

Students in Year 11 should register in their tutorial at 8.30am as usual. We are hopeful that they will be able to follow their usual timetable for the day. However, we do anticipate that there will be some lessons where students will not be taught by their regular teacher. In these instances, we will ensure that lessons are covered in line with local arrangements with the NEU who have recognised the need for continual support for students in Years 11 and 13 in the lead up to their external examinations.

Students in Years 12 and 13 should attend school on these days. The exact timetable will be confirmed on the morning of both days and will be communicated via the Sixth Form team. The Sixth Form study room will also be available and staffed throughout the day. Year 12 students may be affected as teachers who are not taking industrial action may be required to provide support with Year 11 and 13 lessons; this is in line with local agreements with the NEU.

Year 11 GCSE Art and Year 13 Photography Examinations

Arrangements have been made for these examinations to take place on Thursday (GCSE Art) and Tuesday (A Level Photography) as originally planned. Information related to these assessments has been communicated via the Art and Photography department.

Year 11 Theatre Trip

I am also able to confirm that the planned Year 11 theatre trip to the production of *An Inspector Calls* will take place on Thursday evening as planned. The link to the letter can be found [\[here\]](#).

Should parents/carers have any questions about the plans for these two days of industrial action, please contact the school via office@vynersschool.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Gary Mullings
Headteacher