

Dear parent/carers

NEU national Strike Day, Wednesday 1st February

It is important for me to clarify for you the situation all school management teams across the country will be in. This will help to explain our approach to planning for the day.

- I do not know which teachers are members of the NEU. That is private information which teachers are not obliged to reveal.
- I am able to ask staff whether they intend to report for work on the day, but they are not obliged to tell me.
- I consequently cannot accurately predict the level of staffing I will have available – I will not know this until 8:15 on Wednesday morning.
- I am certain that I will not have enough teachers to run a school day for all year groups.

It would not be responsible to invite students into school if I do not have sufficient teachers to supervise them. I do not wish to bring students in and then send them home straight away.

A number of students across Years 9-11 have been preparing for a national maths competition which takes place on that morning. We have already arranged for invigilators to join us to enable this competition to take place. I would like those students to still be able to come in to be part of the Maths Challenge.

Therefore, here is our plan for Wednesday 1st February

Post 16 – all students should attend as normal. If any lessons are cancelled, they should use the time for private study. They will be allowed to sign out and leave the site, if necessary, as normal.

Year 11 – all students should attend, but with a later start at 9:30. They will have a day with lessons in each of the following subjects – English, Maths, Science & PE, finishing at the normal time. Depending on staffing, I may have to change aspects of this, however students should bring their PE kit. Any scheduled interviews for Post 16 will take place as planned.

Years 7 to 10 – students should **not** attend school, but should work from home. Online work will be provided in a range of subjects, depending on which staff are available to set it. This will be learning activities, not live lessons – and will be on Brightspace by 10:00 on the morning.

Students in maths groups 9ad1, 9ej1, 10ad1, 10ej1, 11ad1, 11ej1 – should come to school at 8:30 ready for the Maths Challenge. This will be finished by 10:00. Year 11 students will then join the rest of their year group for the day. Years 9 & 10 should return home.

Vulnerable students – there are number of students that we feel it is important to make special provision for in school. Learning Centre staff will contact parents – if you feel your child should be in this category, and you do not hear from us, please do get in touch.

Free School Meals – students who qualify for free school meals will have the option of collecting a packed lunch from their Pastoral Assistant on the Tuesday afternoon.

After this first strike day, I will have a clearer idea of how staffing might be affected for the subsequent three days in March. With this knowledge, it is possible we may be able to plan in-school learning for more year groups on those further days.

I will keep you informed.

Best wishes

Tim Peacock