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Richard Brand: Headteacher

15<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: NEU Strike Action Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

I am writing to remind you that the second of four days of industrial action planned by the NEU is scheduled for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. This is in the first week after we return from half term. (The two remaining dates that affect this region are Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March)

Planning for when staff are striking is not straight forward. Until the morning of the strike, we will not know exactly which teachers will strike and which teachers will not strike. Added, teachers who are not members of the NEU are not permitted to cover the lessons of staff who are striking. We do, however, have an indication of the proportion of teachers who are likely to strike based using the first day of industrial action earlier in January as a benchmark.

Almost certainly we will need to partially close to more than one year group and I wanted to give you advanced warning that there is likely to be a significant level of disruption. It is our intention to remain open for students preparing for GCSE examinations in Year 11 and, hopefully, two more year groups. We expect staff absence will dictate that at least two year groups will need to remain at home.

I will contact you again no later than Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February with more firm guidance. I hope that this will give you the opportunity to consider alternative arrangements for your child for the dates above, should it become necessary.

Should you wish to find out more about why the NEU is taking this action, you can read their press release here: <https://neu.org.uk/press-releases/neu-take-strike-action-over-pay>

Yours sincerely

**Richard Brand**

Headteacher

RIB/TW – NEU strike action-150223

