

Haywood Academy

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Principal: Mr Mike Dawes

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27th January, 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware from news and social media that teacher members in the National Education Union (NEU) have voted to take industrial action. The NEU has confirmed that initial action will take place in England on Wednesday 1st February. They have also announced 3 further days in March.

This industrial action is a formal trade dispute between the NEU and the Secretary of State for Education because there hasn't yet been an agreement reached where additional and sufficient funds have been made available to fully fund an increase in teacher's pay at a rate greater than inflation, correcting historic real-terms pay cuts. This strike is a result of a national dispute between the NEU and the government; it is not due to any actions taken by the school, and is a matter for the unions and the government to resolve independently of the school.

Due to the number of staff we have participating in this strike action, we have no choice but to reduce the number of students on site on this day.

Haywood Academy will be open for Year 11 and City College will be open for Year 13. Students in these year groups must attend as normal, arriving at their respective sites before 8.40am. Some of our Year 11 cohort will be sitting a final GCSE examination on the morning of the 1st February and so should ensure that they arrive in plenty of time to be in their seat to start the exam promptly. All other year groups will be closed and will reopen the following day as normal. This means that if your child is in Years 7 to 10 or Year 12, they will need to remain at home for the day instead of coming to school and tasks will be set for them to complete via Google Classrooms.

Provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers across all year groups is available. This is by appointment only as our capacity is limited. A place must be requested by midday on Tuesday 31st January at the very latest. If your child falls into one or both of these categories, please do not delay in completing the quick application for a place via [this link](#).

Finally, if your child is in Years 7 to 10 or 12 and is eligible for a free school meal, one can be reserved for them to be collected between 12.30pm and 1.30pm. This will be a packed lunch and can be ordered by clicking this link: [FSM order form](#)

Whilst I am aware that strike action will have an impact on you, our families, I am confident that our staff have considered this decision carefully and are only taking industrial action because they believe they have no other choice. Thank you for your support in this difficult matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Dawes
Principal