

Haywood Academy

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Principal: Mr Mike Dawes

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16th February, 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: National Education Union (NEU) industrial action – Wednesday 1st March

As you know, we were affected by the first National Education Union (NEU) member strike on the 1st February and had no choice but to restrict attendance to some year groups. The next date for industrial action falls the other side of half term and I wanted to give you sufficient notice that unless the action is cancelled, we will have no choice but to make the same arrangements as before.

To remind you, 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.

I confirm, 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. 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 Monday 27th February 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](#). Please order this by midday on Monday 27th February too.

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

