



# All Hallows RC High School

Specialising in Business, Enterprise & Sports

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Headteacher: Mrs A. Cavanagh

Dear Parent/Carers

## Re: Strike Action

I hope this letter finds you well.

As detailed in last week's letter to you, the membership of the National Education Union (NEU) has voted to take industrial action in schools across the country. This will take the form of strike action and is currently due to take place on:

Wednesday 01st February 2023

Tuesday 28th February 2023

Wednesday 15th March 2023

Thursday 16th March 2023

The industrial action is a result of a national dispute between the NEU and the government and is not specific to our school. The overwhelming majority of schools locally and nationally will be impacted, but each school will have different arrangements for pupils due to the differing proportion of its staff who are likely to strike.

We have been working closely with colleagues here to plan for the strikes so that we can minimise disruption to our pupils' education, but please bear in mind that teachers are not obliged to inform us in advance of their union membership or their intention to strike. Our current understanding is that there are a significant number of colleagues who will be exercising their right to take industrial action. As mentioned last week, the health and safety of our pupils is our priority and we must ensure that any pupils on site have adequate supervision. With these considerations in mind, arrangements for this Wednesday will be as follows:

### **YEAR 11:**

School will be open as usual on Wednesday 1st February for Year 11 students. They are all required to attend school from 8:30 - 3pm. (Any absences will be followed up as normal.). We have a series of lessons and sessions prepared for them that they will find very beneficial as they work towards success in their GCSEs later in the year.

### **YEARS 7-10**

These pupils should not attend the school building on Wednesday 1st February. Those teachers who are not taking industrial action will provide work on google classroom that pupils should complete at home. Pupils should log on to google classroom at various times during the school day to check the work that has been set for them. Where there is no work set for a particular subject, pupils could spend time reading their library books, reviewing work recently undertaken in class, or completing

independent online work from sites such as Seneca, Mathswatch (all years) and BBC bitesize.

### **EXCEPTIONS**

A small number of identified pupils (for example, those with EHCPs), will be contacted individually to offer a place to study in school during the days of strike action. If you are contacted, then your child should attend school as normal. If you are not contacted individually then your Y7 - Y10 child should remain at home.

All pupils in school must attend punctually and in full school uniform. Break and Lunch will operate as normal for Year 11 pupils. Those identified pupils from other year groups will also have lunch from 12:30 - 1:20pm.

Those pupils who are eligible for free school meals should collect a packed lunch to take home for the strike day. This can be collected from the school canteen area at the end the day prior to the actual strike day. Some elements of this lunch may need to be placed in the fridge overnight.

I apologise for any potential inconvenience these arrangements cause you, and reassure you that we are doing everything we can to minimise the number of pupils who are impacted by the industrial action. Those teachers who are taking action tell me that they do so reluctantly but believe that they are doing so in order to secure better provision for pupils in the longer term.

You may know that whilst this national dispute is about teacher pay, the action is also about addressing the recruitment, retention and funding crisis in education. Enhanced levels of funding would improve the capacity of schools to deliver both quality daily provision and good outcomes for children.

It is unlikely that the industrial action will be called off, but if this were to happen, I will write to you to confirm that the school will be fully open.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please do contact [studentservices@allhallowsrc.co.uk](mailto:studentservices@allhallowsrc.co.uk) who will be able to assist.

We pray for a speedy and positive resolution which would avoid further impact on parents and pupils. Meanwhile, I thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's education.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs A Cavanagh  
**Head Teacher**

### **Summary: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

The school building is open to Y11 (and invited pupils from other year groups) and closed to most Y7 – Y10 pupils.