



24 September 2013

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Industrial Action by the NASUWT and NUT on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

As I mentioned on the website last week, Tuesday 1st October is likely to see joint strike action by the NASUWT and NUT teaching unions. This regional strike in Yorkshire and Humberside is part of an ongoing campaign related to pensions, pay and working conditions.

The vast majority of our teaching staff are members of these two unions and given over 60 teaching staff have indicated that they will be on strike that day, I will be unable to open the school normally if this strike goes ahead. After completing a risk assessment I have decided to close the school completely, in the event of strike action, to Years 8-11 and to maintain a partial opening for Year 12 and 13 and for some Year 7 students.

In the event of a strike, Year 12 and 13 students will be able to use the school for private study and to work on UCAS applications, however **no lessons** will occur that day. I will also offer a limited number of child care places for parents/carers who need **emergency child care** for Year 7 students. Please note this child care will be provided by support staff and will **not involve any lessons**. Given I will only have a small number of support staff who can run this provision, I am very limited in the number of Year 7 places I can offer. Should you wish to enquire about the availability of this provision then please contact the main school office by noon on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September so I can confirm the availability of this. Please note that in the event of a strike and the closure of the normal operation of the school, no school transport will operate on this day therefore any parents utilising the emergency child care for Year 7 will have to make their own arrangements to drop students off for the normal start of school and to collect them at the normal finishing time.

While I will be unable to provide formal schooling for Year 11 on the day if the strike proceeds, parents may wish to highlight the resources for English and Maths on the VLE and also the MyMaths website where study materials are available. I know that the English department have recently uploaded a series of resources to support students in the November entry. Materials for many other subjects are also on the VLE.

The current information I have is that the strike will go ahead and parents/ carers should plan on this basis. As with any planned industrial action there is, however, the possibility that dialogue could lead to the cancellation of this action – right up to the last minute. In the light of this, it is crucial that parents check the website for information as we will notify any cancellation of the closure via the website and by text message. I apologise for any inconvenience this closure may cause you and for any uncertainty over the action. I have waited until I received final feedback from the NASUWT following their meeting last night before I confirmed the final arrangements. I hope that I have given sufficient advance warning to allow you to make child care arrangements where, and if, these are required.

Yours faithfully,

*L. Savage*

Ms L Savage  
Headteacher