

27 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Industrial action for Teaching Staff

I hope this letter finds you well.

As you may be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) confirmed on Monday 16th January that its members will be striking over pay on four separate days in February and March. I am writing to reassure you about what this means and how it will impact your child.

Currently, strikes that will impact BBEC are scheduled to take place on the below dates:

- **Wednesday 1st February** (whole country strike)
- **Tuesday 28th February** (Northern, North West, Yorkshire & The Humber)
- **Wednesday 15th March** (whole country strike)
- **Thursday 16th March** (whole country strike)

Striking is the right of every teacher who is part of a union and is a personal choice which we respect as an academy and Trust. It is my responsibility to ensure our pupils receive the highest standard of education and care. However, **the safety and wellbeing of our students remains my top priority.**

As we have a high proportion of teachers who are members of the NEU, this may make it challenging for us to keep the school open on each of these strike days, as there may not be enough staff for us to safely welcome all students on site.

I am writing to inform you that, on Wednesday 1st February, we will be forced to close the school to the majority of students, as there will not be sufficient staff for us to supervise them safely. We will, however, be contacting the parents and carers of identified students separately to this letter, as we will still be hosting provision for certain groups of students.

If you do not receive this separate communication by the end of Friday 27th January, please note that the school will not be open for your child on Wednesday 1st February, and we will be providing remote learning for them to complete at home.

Students should go the following websites to complete work in the following subjects.

English	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
Maths	Sparx Maths www.corbettmaths.com
Science	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
Geography	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)
French and Spanish	Seneca - Learn 2x Faster (senecalearning.com)

Students have their own login for all the above sites and can also access Oak National Academy for a range of lessons and learning in all subjects using the following link:

[Oak National Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://thenational.academy)

We are currently planning on providing onsite provision for Year 11 students who we would ask to come in at the slightly later start time of 10.00 am. This provision has been prioritised to ensure we minimise disruption to our Year 11's programme of learning during their important GCSE examination year. **Should staffing availability change before or on the day, we will let parents know by 9.00am at the latest via text message and on the school website and replace the onsite provision with virtual and online learning accessible from home.**

If you are considered to be a "critical worker" and would like to request your child attends school, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss provision. So that we can ensure the safety of everyone on the school site, please do not send your child before contacting us.

Critical workers are classed as those in the following fields:

- Health and Social Care
- Education and Childcare
- Public Services
- Local Government
- Food and other necessary goods
- Public Safety
- Transport
- Utilities, Communication and Financial Services

We will continue to communicate with you and keep you updated on the arrangements or any changes to the planned strike action on the future dates listed above.

I would like to thank you for your continued support during what has been a challenging period. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Taylor

Headteacher