



**WICKERSLEY SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE**

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**HEADTEACHER:** Mr T Hardcastle

10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Re: Strike Action - Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January, the National Education Union (NEU), one of the trade unions representing the teaching profession, announced its intention to strike. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during the days of strike action on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

At this moment in time the NEU teachers' strike is still going ahead on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Due to the number of staff planning to strike, we have decided to close the school on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. The school will remain open for Year 11 students, and Year 13 students who are sitting mock exams.

#### **Arrangements for Year 11**

Year 11 students will complete some of their pre-planned assessments without the need to miss any additional lessons. As students were already expecting to sit these assessments at various points throughout the week, facilitating them on the strike days instead, when no in-class learning is taking place, is logical. Students will sit their English and Physics assessments on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, and their Maths, Geography and MFL (if applicable) assessments on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>. We will also schedule intervention sessions in some options subjects where needed. Further details about the timings of the day will be shared next week.

The results from these assessments will help students and teachers identify where to focus their efforts during these final stages of teaching, revision and intervention.

#### **Arrangements for Year 13**

Year 13 lessons will be delivered remotely to students at home via Google Meet. Due to the nature of the strike action, we cannot run virtual classes for all lessons. Staff who do not intend to strike will explain to their classes if a Google Meet will take place and how to access it.

Also, some Year 13 mock exams are scheduled on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of March. These details have been shared previously with students. Students sitting exams should report to the Sixth Form Common Room in H Block fifteen minutes before their start time.

In line with Department for Education guidance, all students with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and those in Local Authority care will also be invited to school. The families of these students will receive a further letter explaining the arrangements for the day.

All students eligible for a free school meal will receive one for each of the days. The parents of these students will be contacted shortly.

We will let you know as soon as possible if the strike action is cancelled. If so, the school will be open as normal to all students.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the arrangements outlined above. The decision to close the school to most students is not an easy decision to make; we appreciate that it will likely disrupt your usual plans and we thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Hardcastle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a distinct flourish at the end.

Mr T Hardcastle  
Headteacher