

26 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Strike Action – Y11 In School Only On This Day

You may be aware from media coverage that the largest teaching union, the NEU teaching union has declared strike action for NEU members. Other staff will be in school working.

The dates affecting our area are:

Wednesday 1st February
Thursday 2nd March
Wednesday 15th March
Thursday 16th March

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government, not because of any issues at our school. As you know, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our top priority. Due to there not being enough staff to safely have all pupils in school, we will undertake a partial school closure for some Year groups. We have prioritised key year groups to remain open. We are unable to offer key provision due to the large number of children in school who would qualify for this. There is very clear Department for Education guidance on staffing during a strike; I cannot compel other teachers or teaching assistants to cover for striking colleagues.

- Below are the arrangements for the first strike day on **Wednesday 1 February**.
- Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be closed, and children in those classes cannot attend school on this day but will be learning from home online.
- There will be no after school enrichment clubs and refunds will be issued in due course although Y11 sessions may still run and we will update you on this separately.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Bexhill Academy remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further. I will let you know of any arrangements or restricted opening for the further strike dates as soon as I am able.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Warmest wishes,



Catherine Davies
Executive Principal
MA, MBA, BA (Hons), NPQH