



Wednesday, 25 January 2023

Dear parents/carers,

### **NEU Strike Action: Wednesday, 1 February 2023**

You may be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared strike action, which will take place on Wednesday, 1 February 2023, leading to school closures across the country. Please note that the strike is happening because of a national dispute (the reasons for which can be found in the attached NEU flyer) between the unions and the government, and not because of any issues at our school.

I'm getting in touch to give you notice about our arrangements for Wednesday, 1 February 2023:

**Only students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will attend lessons in school. School will be shut for students in all other year groups on that day.** However, students who fall into the following categories are invited in to school:

- Students with social workers
- Students in care
- Students with an EHCP

For students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 who are not in school, teachers will be setting work via the Google Classroom. However, I cannot ask striking staff to set work, nor can I ask them to upload materials to Google Classroom. Therefore, for some subjects, there will be no work available. If your child is unable to access Google Classroom at home, please contact your child's Head of Year as soon as possible.

For all students who receive a free school meal, lunch will be available for collection from the school reception from 9.30 onwards. I am afraid that we are unable to deliver the lunches for students who live further away. However, if this is a problem for you, please contact your child's Head of Year.

The buses to and from school will run as normal so the journey for Years 11, 12 and 13 should be unaffected by the strike. For these year groups, school will start and end at the same time. There will be no after school clubs or activities, including OSL on the day of the strike.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and/or that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation

may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. The Sittingbourne School 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.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's Head of Year through the following email addresses:

Year 7: [tss-pastoral-yr7@swale.at](mailto:tss-pastoral-yr7@swale.at)

Year 8: [tss-pastoral-yr8@swale.at](mailto:tss-pastoral-yr8@swale.at)

Year 9: [tss-pastoral-yr9@swale.at](mailto:tss-pastoral-yr9@swale.at)

Year 10: [tss-pastoral-yr10@swale.at](mailto:tss-pastoral-yr10@swale.at)

Year 11: [tss-pastoral-yr11@swale.at](mailto:tss-pastoral-yr11@swale.at)

Sixth form: [tss-sixthform@swale.at](mailto:tss-sixthform@swale.at)

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Smith'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and a smaller 'Smith'.

Mr N Smith  
Headteacher