



Thursday, 9 March 2023

Dear parents/carers,

NEU Strike Action: Wednesday 15 & Thursday 16 March 2023

As you may be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) industrial action continues next week with NEU members taking strike action on both Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March. This will lead to school closures across the country. Please be reminded that the strike is happening because of a national dispute 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, 15 and Thursday, 16 March 2023 here at TSS:

Wednesday 15 March

Only students in Years 8, 11, 12 and 13 will attend lessons in school. School will be shut for students in all other year groups on that day.

Thursday 16 March

Only students in Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 will attend lessons in school. School will be shut for students in all other year groups on that day.

Please note that on both days, 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 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.

On both days, for all students who receive a free school meal, lunch will be available for collection from the school reception from 10.00 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.

Travel Masters will be running an adapted schedule on both Wednesday and Thursday. Details of this can be seen on our The Sittingbourne School Facebook page. For students in school, lessons will start and end at the same time as usual.

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

Year 8: tss-pastoral-yr8@swale.at

Year 9: tss-pastoral-yr9@swale.at

Year 10: tss-pastoral-yr10@swale.at

Year 11: tss-pastoral-yr11@swale.at

Sixth form: tss-sixthform@swale.at

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Smith'.

Mr N Smith
Headteacher