

Wednesday 25th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Strike Action

Following on from my letter last week, I am now in a position to confirm our plans for Wednesday 1st February 2023, in the first instance, in relation to the NEU's planned strike action.

Having considered the information I have received from teachers to ensure we can operate safely, I can confirm we will be open for Years 7 and 11 only unless your child is considered vulnerable or you are a critical worker (please see below for information relating to this). Students in Years 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 are asked to stay at home and study remotely; a separate letter will follow from Ms Vallance (Assistant Headteacher – Teaching and Learning) as to what our provision will look like for this.

If you child is in the year groups expected to be in school, please find outlined below our plans:

Year 7:

Upon arrival, students are expected to make their way straight to the Sports Hall in order to be registered; they are also asked to wear their PE uniform for the whole school day. They will follow a day of activities with their tutor group which will focus on team work and wellbeing.

Year 11:

Upon arrival, students are expected to make their way straight to the Drama Hall in order to be registered. They are expected to wear their full school uniform. They will remain in their tutor groups and have a day of focused revision sessions.

Attendance Codes

Students who are expected to be in school will be registered in line with our attendance policy. As per the DfE's guidance, students in Years 7 and 11 are required to attend, regardless of parental choice or the closure of other year groups in the school.

For those students not expected in school, we will code their attendance in accordance with the DfE's guidance to ensure there is no impact on their overall attendance percentage.

Catering Provision and Free School Meals

There will be a limited catering provision for students expected to be in school, therefore students who are not on our free school meals register are encouraged to bring a packed lunch. Students who are able to access free school meals and are also expected to be in school will be able to get food in the usual way.

Tel: 01234 290200 • Fax: 01234 290236 • email: mark.rutherford@mrus.co.uk • www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk



















For those students who are on our free school meals register and not in school will be asked to pre-order a packed lunch before the end of this week and collect before they leave school on Tuesday 31st January 2023.

Vulnerable Students

We will be in direct contact with parents/carers of students in those year groups who are being asked to access remote learning but we would like to invite into school for the day. They are expected to go straight to the Sp4L upon arrival and wear full school uniform. They will work on the provided remote learning work in the same way as their peers.

Critical Workers

In line with the DfE's guidance we will also have a provision for our students whose parents/carers are critical workers. If you require a place for your child who is in the year groups being asked to work remotely, please contact your child's Head of Year by 4pm on Friday 27th January 2023 at the very latest to request this via the following email addresses:

- Year 8 Year8Office@mrus.co.uk
- Year 9 Year 9 Office @mrus.co.uk
- Year 10 Year10Office@mrus.co.uk
- Sixth Form sixth.form@mrus.co.uk

We will coordinate the feedback and ensure we have an effective plan to support students accessing remote learning in school.

Please be reassured that we have done all we can to remain open for as many students as possible. With other strike dates imminent we will continue to communicate with you to outline our provision.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Foster Headteacher