Mark Rutherford School Wentworth Drive Bedford MK41 8PX MARK RUTHERFORD

Wednesday 8th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Strike Action (Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023)

I write to confirm our plans for Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023 regarding the NEU's planned national strike action.

Having reviewed the situation from the last two strike days and mapped this to the two consecutive days planned next week we have taken the very difficult decision to close the school. All students are asked to stay at home and study remotely. They are to access the websites identified in the letter sent by Ms Vallance prior to the first strike day at the beginning of February, a copy of which has been re-circulated with this letter.

Attendance Codes

As students are not expected to be 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

Those students on our free school meals register will be asked to pre-order packed lunches, to last both days, before the end of this week and collect before they leave school on Tuesday 14th March 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 10th March 2023 at the very latest to request this via the following email addresses:

- Year 7 <u>Year7Office@mrus.co.uk</u>
- Year 8 Year8Office@mrus.co.uk
- Year 9 Year9Office@mrus.co.uk
- Year 10 Year10Office@mrus.co.uk
- Year 11 Year11Office@mrus.co.uk
- Sixth Form sixth.form@mrus.co.uk

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

MEMBER













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 try and remain open however, with two consecutive strike days we cannot ensure the safe running of our school.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Foster Headteacher