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Deputy Headteacher: Mark Nicholls, BA (Hons)

Letter No: 179/2023

21st April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Response to planned strike action by the NEU Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Teachers in the NEU have declared strike action, and the next days of strike are due to take place on 27th April and 2nd May 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and conditions, and not because of any issues at Sandringham.

This communication is to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for 27th April and 2nd May 2023. The senior team have considered the situation and the information that we have on the impact of the strike on staffing levels. As a result, we have decided:

Thursday 27th April 2023 we should do the following:

- **Years 9, 11, 12 and 13 must attend school as normal.**
- **Year 10 will continue with their mock examinations as normal in school.**
- **Years 7 and 8 will not be able to attend school** and will need to study from home.

Tuesday 2nd May 2023 we should do the following:

- **Years 7, 11, 12 and 13 must attend school as normal.**
- **Years 8, 9 and 10 will not be able to attend school** and will need to study from home.

As previously, these arrangements will be in place:

- Online learning will be provided by staff who are not striking throughout the day. Students should log onto their Google Classrooms each session and where there is no teacher within 5 minutes of the start of a lesson, they should consider this an independent study session to complete home learning/reading etc. Students should be at home for the duration of the school day following their normal timetable, as we did during the lock-down during Covid measures and the recent snow day.
- Students attending school will have access to normal canteen provision.
- We are committed to providing a packed lunch to students who are eligible for free school meals if they are not in school. We would be grateful if families could contact us to let us know if they will be collecting one.



- For students of critical workers who cannot supervise their children at home, they should notify the school of this so that we can consider how to accommodate these children on site during the day. Please bear in mind that there is likely to be limited capacity to manage these children.
- A separate communication will go to families of children who are vulnerable and the provision available to them.
- Normal transport will continue from Wheathampstead for those students attending school on the day.
- There are no planned examinations or trips on this day, and we do not anticipate any issues in this area.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and 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. Sandringham remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students and delivering a high-quality education.

My previous letters have outlined more of the detail of the strikes. If you have any questions, please contact either myself or Mr. Nicholls at the school.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Gray
Headteacher