



## Duke's Secondary School

Josephine Butler Campus, Academy Road  
Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9FZ  
Telephone: 01670 816111 [admin.dss@dukes.ncea.org.uk](mailto:admin.dss@dukes.ncea.org.uk)

Principal: Mr R Atkinson

RA/LMR

27 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that one of the main teacher unions, the NEU, is advising its members to go on strike next Wednesday 1st February 2023.

We do expect some of our teachers to participate in this industrial action, however the greatest impact on our ability to run the school smoothly on that day, will most likely be as a result of teachers who have their own children at other schools that may be closing as a result of the strike.

Having looked at the situation carefully, we do feel that we will be able to **operate as normal on that day for all students in years 7-11**. In order to do this safely and effectively we have made the decision to **cancel the majority of 6th form lessons**, this will enable us to deploy staff in the areas of the school where some cover of lessons may be needed. Independent work for 6th form students that day will be set via their class teachers and the 6th form common room will be open to 6th form students should they prefer to do the independent study in school. As an exception those 6th form students who have an exam on Friday 3rd February will be expected to be in school on Wednesday 1st February.

In summary:

- All students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 should attend school as normal on Wednesday.
- All 6th form lessons will be cancelled on Wednesday, unless a class has an exam on Friday, 3rd of February.
- 6th form students will be able to come into school and work independently in the 6th form common room should they wish

I can only apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to our 6th form students, but I hope that students and parents understand the reasoning behind the decision.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Atkinson



Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust

Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust is a company limited by  
Guarantee registered in England and Wales with Company No: 6653439



Principal