



Duke's Secondary School

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

Principal: Mr R Atkinson

RA/LMR

20 April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, the main teaching unions have rejected the Government's recent pay offer and as a result the NEU is advising its members to go on strike again on **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023**. As stated in previous letters, given the fact that we have experienced a number of these days so far this year, we are in a much better position in terms of knowing which staff will be taking industrial action. We predict that there will be a significant number of staff on strike on those days, therefore there will be some disruption to the running of the school on those days.

We have again looked carefully at the timetables for those days and have tried to ensure that we can manage the safe supervision of the students while minimising the impact on the learning with reduced staffing levels in place. Students in years 11 & 13 are reaching the end of their courses, therefore exam preparation and completion of assessment materials in vocational subjects must take precedent.

We have therefore made the decision that unfortunately we will need to close the school to certain year groups on those days, and we will put the following arrangements in place
Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023

- School will **remain open for Years 7, 11, 12 & 13**
- School will **be closed to students in Years 8, 9 & 10**
- **Work will be available for students in Years 8, 9 & 10 on their Google classrooms**

It is looking unlikely at this time that the industrial action will be averted, but if it is I will write to you to confirm that the school will be open as normal to all year groups.

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

Yours sincerely

Mr R Atkinson
Principal



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