



**Huxlow
Academy**

Ambition • Respect • Pride

Our Ref: PLE/KHU/Strike

Date: 20th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

You may or may not be aware that the National Education Union (NEU) has called a strike for Wednesday 1st February. This is followed by a further three days of industrial action on Wednesday 1st, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. No teacher would wish to disrupt the education of young people but the crisis in teacher retention and recruitment and years of erosion in pay are the root causes of this dispute with the Government.

We currently have approximately 23 members of staff in the NEU so it is likely that there will be significant absence on these days. Therefore the school will find it extremely difficult to cover all lessons on the strike days and reduced supervision around school will inevitably affect our ability to maintain our usual levels of safety.

At this point in time I am not able to provide details of our exact plans to manage the learning on these days but it may be that the school will need to partially close and if this is the case then I will look to prioritise those year groups who have external examinations this summer.

If some students had to remain at home we are working to develop a bank of online resources that they will be able to access to complete work on these days. If students can be in school they will have face to face lessons with their non-striking teachers and we will ensure that groups are supervised where colleagues are taking strike action.

I am hoping to get a clearer picture on the numbers of staff who will not be in on Wednesday 1st February though striking staff are not obliged to tell employers of their plans in advance. I will email you with more information before the end of next week and let you know of our decisions regarding any partial closure by Tuesday morning (31st January) at the latest.

I recognise that this leaves you with a level of uncertainty but I wanted to communicate with you today so that you could begin to consider your own arrangements should your child not be in school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Mr Paul Letch
Headteacher