

25 January 2023

Dear Parents or Carers

Re: Teachers' Strike Action

I am writing to inform you that WMSF teachers will be taking industrial action on **Wednesday 1st February** and the Sixth Form will be closed to most students on this date.

This was a very difficult decision for teachers to make and it should be noted that most do not want to go on strike – they want to be in the classroom teaching and supporting our young people. However, the National Education Union (NEU) are requesting that teachers' pay keeps up with inflation and the cost of living. As this national dispute around pay is unresolved teachers feel they have no alternative course of action.

Whilst I appreciate this may create a level of inconvenience we will be taking measures to enable students to continue with their learning on this day. For many students, independent study work will be available on Google Classroom and students will be given instructions on how to access this with an expectation that they complete tasks set at home.

Some classes, especially those in year 13, may still go ahead. Teachers who will be teaching on site will let their students know they need to attend lesson via the google classroom notification stream.

There will also be a limited provision on site for particularly vulnerable students and those who are unable to access learning at home. If you believe your child falls into one of these categories, please contact Fay Lewellyn fllewellyn@wmsf.ac.uk at your earliest opportunity and we will include them on the list for onsite provision.

The NEU are currently planning further strike action on the following dates:

- Thursday 2nd March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

We will keep you updated on whether or not these planned strikes do go ahead nearer the time.

We want to take this opportunity to reiterate that the young person in your care's education is important to all staff at William Morris Sixth Form. We hope that by putting in place contingency plans we can limit any impact the strike could have to their education.

Yours sincerely

Mary Berrisford