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BRI/SRU

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Industrial Action by Teachers

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your families are well. You may be aware from reports in the media that members of the National Education Union (NEU) have voted for strike action. Other teaching unions (NASWT and NAHT) did not receive the required number of ballot papers and so will not be striking at this point.

The NEU has identified four days of strike of which will affect Parkside Community School.

These are:

Wednesday 1 February 2023

Wednesday 1 March 2023

Wednesday and Thursday 15/16 March 2023

I have been working closely with Derbyshire County Council and with representatives in school to plan accordingly for the first of these days, next Wednesday 1 February.

Whilst it is always my intention to ensure that the school remains open to all pupils, my first responsibility is to ensure the safety of all pupils, staff and visitors on site. As such, following an analysis of the risks posed by reduced staffing levels, next Wednesday 1 February the school will only be open to Year 11 pupils.

Year 11 are expected to attend school as normal and will follow their normal timetable where possible. Where this is not possible they will receive high-quality personalised Post-16 and careers input crucial to their next steps.

Remote learning activities will be set for pupils in all other Year groups using Show My Homework. Please expect correspondence from Mrs Asher regarding arrangements for remote learning over the next few days. We will be speaking to pupils in school about these arrangements.

Parents/carers of pupils eligible for free school meals will be contacted by text to make arrangements for an onsite collection of a free school meal.

It is clearly with great regret that I bring you this difficult news as we start a New Year and new term in our school. Our aim is to keep you updated to the best of our ability throughout this period of uncertainty. I will of course communicate arrangements for future strike days as soon as I am able.

Yours sincerely

Ben Riggott
Headteacher