

MS/CMF

9th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I write to you regarding the upcoming strikes by the NEU Teaching Union. The third and fourth strikes will take place on **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March** and will affect schools in England and Wales.

The reason for the strike action is a lack of funding in education resulting in teacher shortages and teachers leaving the profession for employment that offers far better pay and conditions. We want to be able to offer each and every child the best possible education and under current conditions this is challenging for all schools.

A significantly high number of our teaching staff are in the NEU at Smithills and I must assume that all will take strike action. It is for this reason that education for years 7-9 on **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March** will take place **on SharePoint at home**. Instructions on how to access the work will be provided. Please get in touch with us if you experience any difficulties accessing SharePoint.

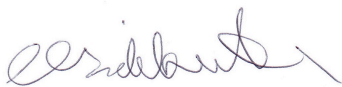
All year 11 are expected to attend school, in full uniform, on both days. They will follow their normal timetable and/or complete PPEs or coursework sessions.

All year 10 are expected to attend school on Wednesday 15th March at 11am, in full uniform, for their English Literature PPE – it is extremely important that your child is present for this exam if they are to be fully prepared for their GCSE in the Summer term. Pupils can leave school once the exam has finished.

Some year 10 pupils will also be invited into school to complete coursework - a separate letter of invitation will be sent to the parents of those involved. If your child is not in school they must complete work set on SharePoint.

We can offer provision for vulnerable pupils. If you feel that you qualify for a place you must contact school before 3pm on Monday 13th March.

Thank you in advance



M Sidebottom
Principal