



30 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my last email as regards the impending strike action of NEU members, I am writing to confirm the arrangements for St Bernard's. This national strike, with some local variations, is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, school funding and recruitment and retention.

Following careful analysis of the timetable on the day of strike action, the likely number of teachers striking and in consultation with my senior team and governors on **Wednesday 1 February 2023, the school will be closed to students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10.** Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be required to attend.

Our vulnerable students will also be invited to attend should parents / carers feel that this would be the best provision for them on the day.

Students whose teachers are not on strike in year 7, 8, 9 and 10 will have work set for them on Teams. For students whose teachers are on strike in these year groups, activities will be emailed to students. Vulnerable students will be supervised to complete the work set for years 7-10.

Students in year 11,12 and 13 are expected to attend school. All students should bring adequate work or revision materials with them. Where students have lessons and those staff are not on strike, lessons will take place as usual. Where there are lessons with those teachers who are on strike, students will be in supervised study.

I am sorry about the disruption to you and to your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating but continue to ask that all members of our school community are treated in line with the values explicit in our mission statement. St Bernard's remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all our students.

Please be aware that should strike action be called off, the school will open as normal. Should agreement not be reached, please see below for a reminder of the planned dates to come. **We recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for the following dates:**

- **Wednesday 1 March**
- **Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March**

Kind regards,

Mrs A Moise-Dixon
Headteacher