

Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

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10th March 2023

Dear Parents /Carers

Re: Strike Action

You may be aware from media coverage that teaching members of The National Education Union (NEU) have voted for strike action. The final two days of strike action currently scheduled are for Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

The action will have a significant impact on the number of teaching staff in school that day, and so I have to assess whether it is safe to open the site as normal. Teachers are not required to give pre-warning of their decision to strike, so I have based my decision on the number of colleagues we have who are members of the NEU and so entitled to take strike action. I have completed a risk assessment using this figure and have concluded that we are unable to safely cover all lessons with this number of staff absent.

As a result, we will limit site attendance on 15th and 16th March as follows:

- Year 11, 12 and 13 students will attend normal lessons where this is possible and complete independent study if their teacher is absent. Year 11 students are to report to the Hall on both days and are reminded to bring revision materials for use during the day.
- Vulnerable students (EHCP; those currently open to social care; young carers and LAC/PLAC and adopted students) will have access to ICT equipment on site to access the online provision. If you believe that your child is in this category and have not received contact by Monday 13th March, please email enquiries@arnewood.hants.sch.uk.

All other children will receive their learning remotely on this day through Firefly. We will be working with students to ensure that they understand how to access the work. More details regarding the remote provision will be issued in due course.

All clubs and activities before and after school will be cancelled.

On a national level, negotiations are taking place with the government and the dispute may be resolved in time to avert strike action. If this is the case then 15th and 16th March will be normal school days.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Anderson Headteacher

