



20 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May 2023 – in school provision Year 11, 12 and 13**

The school will be open on 27 April and 2 May 2023, but a significant number of staff are likely to be on strike. Each school has varying rates of union membership and the union that they belong to. Since members are not required to notify the school in advance of their intentions, I have conducted a risk assessment on the safety of the school being open to all students. In discussions within our senior team and the school governors, we have determined that we may not have sufficient staff available to safely manage over 900 students on site.

We are mindful of disruption faced by students due to Covid-19 over the past few years and have taken the decision to prioritise students that are studying for their forthcoming GCSE and A-level exams. **Therefore, on Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May 2023, students in Year 11, 12 and 13 should come to school as normal.** There may be periods of the day when their normal teacher is not available and independent working will be expected (Year 11 will be supervised).

For Sixth Form lessons students will not be notified in advance if their teacher is present or not. They should attend school as normal, including off-site lessons. If their teacher is absent then they should use the opportunity to conduct private study on site and should therefore bring any necessary study materials with them. Where appropriate we may authorise students to go home to study once we are able to confirm a teacher's absence. This decision will only take place on the day.

## **Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May 2023 – online provision Year 7, 8, 9 and 10**

Students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 should stay at home and undertake remote learning, following their normal timetable using the resources on google classroom. If there are gaps and work has not been set, online platforms should be used:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/>

<https://hegartymaths.com/login/learner>

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://my.educake.co.uk/student-login>

<https://www.linguascope.com/>

We know that some of our students have specific needs and we will be in touch with those families separately to discuss whether special provision may be required for them on this date. Please do not contact the school requesting that your child has permission to attend school on that day as we cannot accommodate this safely. **We will be in touch with you by the end of the school day on Friday 21 April 2023** if your child is being offered a place in school. If your child is in this category, you will receive a direct confirmation from the school that your child is able to attend school on 27 April and 2 May once we have the full picture of projected student numbers.

## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

Children entitled to Free School Meals who are in school can access the normal meal service. We will confirm specific arrangements for the provision of Free School Meals for students in Year7, 8, 9 and 10 who are working at home on Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May directly with parents/carers of these students.

I know that making alternative arrangements for your children will be difficult for some parents. We are giving as much notice as possible and running as many classes as we can safely. The fundamental rationale behind the industrial action remains a noble one: fair pay and conditions are necessary to ensure that we are able to have a qualified, specialist teacher in every classroom for young people.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Mitcherson  
Headteacher