

25th January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing to update you on the proposed industrial action by members of the National Education Union (NEU), which is scheduled for Wednesday 1st February 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over funding in education, including teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

Our initial analysis suggests that we will be operating at approximately 50% of our normal teaching capacity. The School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) makes it clear that teaching staff who report for work on the strike date cannot be directed to cover for their colleagues who have chosen to take industrial action. As Headteacher, I will always take all reasonable steps to keep the school open to as many students as possible whilst taking into consideration the need to ensure the health and safety of everyone on site. Having completed a risk assessment for the day it is clear that we will not be able to open to all students on Wednesday 1st February 2023, which means that we will be **partially closed**.

In such circumstances, it is normal to prioritise face-to-face education for children who are due to sit external examinations within the academic year as well as other students who may need support on site for specific reasons. Given that this is the case, we will only be able to **open for students in Years 11 and 13**, as well as students who are considered vulnerable and children of key workers. Should parents/guardians believe they are a key worker, or that their child is vulnerable, and should you not have already done so, please complete the short google form (click [here](#)) before Friday 27th January 2023 so that we can plan provision for this group of students.

Students in Years 7-10 and Year 12 will need to remain at home on Wednesday 1st February 2023 as I am unable to guarantee that teacher staffing levels will be sufficient to safely open the school.

I am sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education. I will provide further information about the provision on Wednesday 1st February 2023, including remote education provision and provision at lunchtime for students eligible for free school meals, in the coming days. Should parents/guardians have any questions about the industrial action being taken then please contact the school via office@ruisliphigh.org.uk.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher