



Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 23

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a busy week, I need to update you in relation to national strike action next week.

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### **Industrial action in schools on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July**

Due to the government's failure to engage in discussions relating to funding for education, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced further national strike action on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July next week. I would like to reiterate that this is not action against the school but is about national concerns over teachers' pay and working conditions and the funding levels for schools.

It appears unlikely that there will be any national agreements reached before then and I am therefore sharing our provisional plans for operating safely and sensibly on these strike days. The only basis for closing a school is if it cannot be **safely** operated and all schools will take different approaches depending upon the number of NEU members within each school. I have been informed at this stage that a significant number of our teachers are again joining the strike on this day and based on this evidence, the school will be **closed for all students** except those who are most vulnerable.

The school will be open for students in all years who have an Education, Health and Care Plan, are Looked After Children or where safeguarding needs are otherwise identified by school; these families and carers will be notified in advance.

I must make it clear however, that **these plans may change** nearer the time, or even on the day of the strike, depending on any new information I receive or if there are any changes to the national position of the NEU. We will notify you in due course of remote learning arrangements where staff not involved in the industrial action are available to set work online.

**Please note: The College Taster Day for Year 10 on Friday 7th July is going ahead as planned and all year 10 pupils should attend their chosen venue.**

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### **Dates for your diary**

Thursday 6th July	Year 6 transition day
Friday 7th July	Year 10 College Taster Day
Thursday 6th July	Year 11 Prom
Monday 10th July	Prize Evening
Weds 12th July	London Music Trip leaves
Friday 21st July	School finishes at 12pm for the summer break.

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### **Changes to timings of the school day**

We are now into the second week of adjusted timings during the day and pupils have responded well with calmer movement between lessons and much improved punctuality. Lunchtimes have worked well and dinner queues are through within 15 minutes.

We are about to consult on timings for September to ensure that we meet the government's requirement of a 32.5 hour school week. Information will be with you early next week and your feedback is much appreciated.

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### **Activities Days**

This week we ran our annual Activities Days with a range of trips, visits, workshops and interactive sessions offered over Monday and Tuesday. We have had such fabulous feedback from all the external providers who delivered sessions in school about the behaviour, attitudes and lovely manners of our pupils and external venues have also fed back that our pupils have been 'a credit to the school'; just brilliant! From getting soaked on Valhalla at Blackpool Pleasure Beach to competitive races on the inflatable assault course in school and getting a close look at a laughing kookaburra; our pupils had a go at it all and should be commended for their positivity and their conduct.

Wishing all of our pupils and families a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,



Andrea Radcliffe  
Headteacher