8th June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Strike action by members of the National Education Union (NEU)**

I am writing to inform you about strike action that is being taken by members of the National Education Union (NEU) on 7 separate days over the next few weeks, and to advise you about the arrangements for the school on those days.

NEU members have voted to take discontinuous strike action. This means there will be a series of strike dates, with the first on Wednesday 20th June 2018.

**What does this mean for the students of the school?**

Teachers in our school who are members of the NEU will be on strike on the 7 days that are listed at the end of this letter. There may well be further dates and I will keep you informed as I become aware of them.

As Headteacher I am responsible, in consultation with the Chair of Governors, for deciding what will happen in our school on the days of the strike. My decision on each day will be informed by the risk assessments that I will carry out to determine the impact of the strike on the health and safety of students and staff. It will also reflect the importance that we place on providing a secure and stable learning experience for our students.

I am exploring options for each of the days to ensure that I can maximise the numbers of students that we can continue to have in the school, and to honour as many of the prior commitments in terms of trips, visits and other activities that we have planned for our students.

In the case of students taking exams, their needs will be prioritised and I can assure you that **exams will continue to run throughout this period**.

I appreciate that even a partial closure of the school will cause inconvenience for families and any decisions such as this will not be ones that I will take lightly. I can assure you that I will take into account the well-being of all students and their families and school staff.

**I will be writing to you in advance of each of the strike days in order to give you information about the specific arrangements for each of the days.**

I am sure that you will appreciate that it is highly unlikely that we will be able to be fully open on any of the strike days, but we will be providing a schedule for some of the students on each of the days. I will aim to provide you this information with as much advance notice as I can, so that you are able to make the necessary alternative arrangements as appropriate.

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I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents and carers who have been in touch over the past week to offer support to the school and to provide reassurance that we will all be working together to provide the stability and improvements that will allow the school to make rapid progress.

The planned days for the strikes are as follows:

1. Wednesday 20th June
2. Tuesday 26th June
3. Wednesday 27th June
4. Tuesday 3rd July
5. Thursday 5th July
6. Wednesday 11th July
7. Thursday 12th July

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher