Dear Parents/Carers,

**IMPORTANT AND URGENT INFORMATION**

**Industrial action by GMB members**  
**Thursday, 29th November**

Further to my communication with you on Friday, this letter is to confirm that members of the GMB union have informed me of their intention to take industrial action on Thursday, 29th November. Additionally, the NEU have informed me that they have a significant number of members who have indicated their unwillingness to cross GMB picket lines on Thursday.

As a result of this, I am in a position where, regrettably, I will be unable to provide a full school day for many of our students.

I am currently exploring the possibility of opening for Year 11 students only, and will be in touch with Year 11 parents as soon as possible to provide them with a more detailed schedule of the day if, indeed, this is a feasible option. Year 11 have mock examinations later this term and in a number of subjects have considerable amounts of content to cover prior to these, and the summer exams. I am therefore prioritising them at this difficult time.

A number of our Sports Leaders will also be expected to attend school on Thursday. They will be supporting a previously planned event with a number of primary schools. This Primary School Athletics Day is one that we are hosting, and which our Sports Leaders are taking a key role in facilitating. Ms Horn will make contact with those students directly to provide them with the details of their day.

A small group of Year 11 students are also scheduled to be on a school trip. This will continue as planned and those concerned will have the information they need relating to this.

Both buildings will be open all day and Post 16 students wishing to use the facilities for private study are welcome to attend. They should sign in and out in the usual way.

If you are unable to make suitable arrangements for your child, please let me know in advance and I will try to make provision within the school. I appreciate that this is very short notice for your planning and will do my best to accommodate students who cannot stay at home.

I am aware that instrumentalist are missing out on lessons, and Mr Wright will be in touch to let you know if he is able to make any provision for the day.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith  
Executive Headteacher