

27 January 2023

Dear families

National Teacher Industrial Strike Action

As some of you may be aware, one of the teaching unions, the National Education Union (NEU), is planning strike action over the next couple of months. This is a national strike regarding a dispute between unions and the government over teachers' pay. The dates the NEU has currently scheduled are 1 February, 28 February, 15 March and 16 March. It is possible all, or some of these dates may be withdrawn if the NEU can reach agreement with government.

The strike action is not a dispute between Dixons Academies Trust, the local authority or our school specifically; only between the members of the union and the government. However, we do have a large proportion of our teaching staff in the NEU. **As a result, on the day of the first strike, 1 February, we have no choice but to close the school for students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10.** This is to ensure the safe operation and supervision for those children who are attending school on that day. **Year 11 should report to school, in full uniform on that day as normal.**

Arrangements for Year 7 – Year 10

Year 7 – Year 10 will work from home with work set for online learning and through our knowledge organisers. More details about how your child will access learning on the day of the first strike will be sent out on Monday 30 January. We also recognise that some students work with more support and may need that support to access the online work. As a result, these students are also being offered the opportunity to work in school, supervised. The families for children qualifying for this support will be contacted individually.

Please note, only students in Year 11 or those students who we will be contacting individually will be able to attend school on that day

Arrangements for Year 11

On the strike days, Year 11 will attend school as normal, at 8.15am, for a free breakfast and to be in Line Up at 8.30am for registration. Their day will consist of individualised lessons to support their final exams in the summer.

Lunch and breaktime will run as normal, however we will not be running our 25-minute afternoon Advisory Time, **therefore the day will end at 2.00pm.**

Finally, we appreciate that the school closures are a disruption and that no one wishes for young people to suffer more inconsistency. Please rest assured Dixons Brooklands Academy staff will do all they can to minimise this disruption to learning and support your children to succeed.

Yours faithfully

Kevin Green
Principal

