

Thursday 26th January

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Strike Action

I hope this letter finds you well.

As you may be aware, the membership of the National Education Union (NEU) has voted to take industrial action in schools across the country. This will take the form of strike action and is currently due to take place on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 1st February**
- **Thursday 2nd March**
- **Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March**

I am writing to give you as much notice as possible about the likely impact this will have on our school.

The industrial action is a result of a national dispute between the NEU and the government and is not specific to our school nor to United Learning. The overwhelming majority of schools locally and nationally will be impacted, and each school will have different arrangements for pupils due to the number of members of its staff who are likely to strike.

We have been working closely with colleagues to plan for the strikes so that we can minimise any disruption to our pupils' education. Our current understanding is that a significant number of colleagues will be taking industrial action and we are thus planning for this accordingly.

Our view, at present, is that we will be able to keep the school open on the proposed strike days for a small number of pupils. **Goresbrook Secondary will be open to all Year 11 and Year 13 students, vulnerable students, and students whose parents are critical workers. School will start at the slightly later time of 9am. Year 13 will finish school at their usual time of 13.50pm. Year 11 Students in X1 Maths and X2 Maths will remain in school until 4pm but all other Year 11 students will finish at 2.40pm. Aside from this, the school day will operate as normal.**

Children with at least one parent/carer who is a critical worker can request a school place on Wednesday 1st February. Vulnerable students will be contacted and invited into school on an individual basis. If your child requires a critical worker place at school on Wednesday 1st February 2023 and you are unable to organise alternate childcare for the day, please email secondaryoffice@goresbrookschoo.org.uk with your child's name and year group by **11am on Friday 27th January**.

All students will be provided with work to complete for the day and an overview of this will be emailed to all parents/carers.

Secondary Principal: Megan Harris

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Registered address: United Learning, Worldwide House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough, PE3 6SB

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Goresbrook School

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If your child is in receipt of free school meals, lunch will be provided for them. We will email you directly regarding arrangements for how they can access this.

I apologise for the inconvenience this causes our families, but we are doing everything we can to minimise the number of pupils who are impacted by the industrial action.

It is unlikely that the industrial action will be called off, but if this were to happen, I will write to you to confirm that the school will be fully open.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please contact the school through secondaryoffice@goresbrookschool.org.uk

If the industrial action continues beyond the dates already announced, I will write to you again with an update on our plans.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

Megan Harris

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