

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

**Industrial Action by members of the NEU Union – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

I am writing to provide an update on the expected impact of the industrial action which has been recently announced by members of the NEU Union, as a follow-up to my letter last week. We are committed to providing as much continuity of education as is possible under the circumstances.

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, members of the NEU will take strike action. Members of other teaching and support staff unions are not taking strike action at this time, but this cannot be ruled out in the future.

The Government requires Principals to keep schools open as fully as possible during periods of industrial action.

We have now fully assessed the likely impact and can confirm that the academy will be open to all students on Wednesday, however **with a later start time of 9.00am and an earlier finish time of 2.00pm**. Where possible, the usual curriculum will be covered, although there will be some amendments to sessions based on the staff members available to teach and supervise students.

I have provided a summary of the arrangements for the day below:

<b>School starts</b> (morning address, assembly, form time, etc)	<b>9.00am – 9.20am</b>
Lesson 1	<b>9.20am – 10.15am</b>
Break	<b>10.15am – 10.40am</b>
Lesson 2	<b>10.40am – 11.35am</b>
Lesson 3	<b>11.35am – 12.30pm</b>
Lunch	<b>12.30pm – 1.10pm</b>
Lesson 4	<b>1.10pm – 2.00pm*</b>
<b>School ends</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>

*\*Any detentions will be rolled to the following day*

You will note that **the school day will end at 2.00pm** on Wednesday, instead of the usual time of 3pm. We have confirmed with the school bus company that an end-of-the-day pick-up will be provided at 2.15pm. We have also confirmed that the school service bus will start its journey to Netherwood from its departure point at 8.00am and arrive at school around 8.40am.

Break and lunch will also be combined for all year groups and extended to 25 minutes and 40 minutes respectively. This is to ensure enough staff members are available to supervise social times, in keeping with our duty around health and safety.

There will be sufficient staff members in school to provide supervision for students who cannot be picked up at the earlier time of 2.00pm on this date and who cannot make their own way home.

We are unfortunately unable to accommodate Period 6 sessions for Year 11 students on this date.

I hope you will understand that, as a leadership team, we have done everything in our power to open the academy to all students for as long as possible, under challenging circumstances.

Very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Mitchell', written in a cursive style.

Mr J Mitchell  
**Principal**