

21st April 2023

Re: Important information relating to Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May

Dear Student/Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you further on the NEU Trade Union dispute with the Secretary of State for Education and to inform you that, in relation to this, there is national industrial action by teachers scheduled to take place on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. The NEU Trade Union's decision to take this action is in relation to their dispute with the Secretary of State, rather than the College and is specifically in relation to the failure to give an undertaking to make available additional and sufficient funds to allow employers to pay a fully funded increase in the pay of teachers in Sixth Form Colleges.

The strike action on Thursday 27th April **will not affect** planned year 1 Internal Exams, which should be attended as scheduled.

We are likely to see some disruption to our normal operations, but we anticipate over half of our staff being in attendance to run lessons on site and local arrangements with NEU staff may mean some still attend to help support an even higher proportion of exam year classes on these days. **We are therefore asking staff to communicate directly with their groups in relation to the classes they anticipate providing normal or adapted lessons for and as such we are asking students to attend for these wherever possible.** Where staff do not outline plans, please be aware that it is possible those lessons will be impacted by the disruption, either directly or to prioritise resources and support for exam year groups that a teacher may have. Some staff may also decide to set work or activities separately, even if not directly teaching a class in person. **Students are asked to regularly check e-mail and Teams for class teacher communications about arrangements, including checking before and regularly during the strike days.**

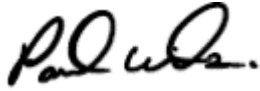
Even though it will not be possible to run all classes we do now anticipate a good proportion are likely to take place. In addition, all study facilities, as well as non-specialist classrooms will be available for use between any lessons on these days, along with continued access to our support teams and all social and catering facilities.

Whilst we are committed to being open as fully as possible on these dates, we anticipate that some disruption and uncertainty will still exist and hope this will be clarified as much as possible through communication via your class teachers as it is not possible to know and communicate all arrangements centrally ahead of the strike days. Where classes do not take place registers will be adjusted to reflect this.

In summary, those teachers who are not participating in the strike action and those who are, but have made special adjustments to support classes have been asked to communicate with you directly. Additionally, the strike action on Thursday 27th April will not affect planned year 1 Internal Exams, which should be attended as scheduled.

The College will operate as normally planned on Friday 28th April and from Wednesday 3rd May, when all teachers will be running their lessons as routinely planned.

Yours Sincerely,

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

Paul Wilson

Principal