

**Houlton School**  
Signal Drive, Houlton,  
RUGBY, Warwickshire, CV23 1ED

01788 593 300  
hello@houltonschool.org.uk  
houltonschool.org.uk

**Michael McCulley**  
Principal

Registered in England  
Company number 07515832

10 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Arrangements for Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2023**

As you are aware from my letter to you on 18 January 2023, one of the teachers' unions, NEU, has invited its members to take strike action. The strikes are happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and school funding; it is not because of any local issues at our academy.

This letter is to advise you of our plans for the **third** and **fourth** of the planned action days on **Wednesday 15** and **Thursday 16 March 2023**. The arrangements below apply to **Houlton School only**. Other TLET academies will have made their own decisions based on local intelligence and they will contact you directly if you have a child attending one of our other providers.

Union members are **not** obliged to tell me whether it is their intention to take strike action or not. However, many of our staff have helpfully given me notice of their current intentions, which has supported me with planning for the day.

#### **Wednesday 15 March 2023: Open for **YEAR 7** only**

At present, we anticipate **being open to Year 7 Pupils only** on **Wednesday 15 March 2023**. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient staff confirmed on site to remain open for Year 8 pupils. **Pupils will be set remote learning on this day**, which they will be able to complete via Google classroom from home.

#### **Thursday 16 March 2023: Open for **YEAR 8** only**

At present, we anticipate **being open to Year 8 Pupils only** on **Thursday 16 March 2023**. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient staff confirmed on site to remain open for Year 7 pupils. **Pupils will be set remote learning on this day**, which they will be able to complete via Google classroom from home.

### **Vulnerable Pupils and Children of Front Line Emergency Service/Educational Settings**

We do have **some limited capacity** to supervise a small number of pupils if they cannot be accommodated at home on either day, including:

- vulnerable pupils (pupils entitled to the **Pupil Premium** Grant or children with an Education, Health Care Plan (**EHCP**)); and
- children of workers in the following professions: **front line emergency service roles**; staff working with children in **schools and educational settings**.

Any pupils in school who belong to the groups above who are attending school will access the same remote learning as their peers from computer rooms, which will be supervised by school-based adults.

If your child is vulnerable or you are a front-line worker, and you need to send your child to be in school, [please complete this online form](#) so that we know to expect them. Otherwise, we will assume they are accessing learning from home on this day.

### **For pupils in school:**

- The Refectory team will be in school as usual, so **there will be a normal service on this day for breakfast, break and lunchtime**;
- Breakfast club, supervised by the inclusion team, **will run as usual**;
- Lunchtime co-curricular clubs will **not** run with the exception of 'quiet lunch', which will run as usual;
- After school co-curricular clubs will **not** run with the exception of study support, which will run as usual;
- In addition to the usual study support provision after school, we **will open the Malcolm Hancock Centre for Communications** for any pupil who would usually stay for a co-curricular club and cannot get home at the end of school. They may read quietly or use the computers.

### **Important – please note**

In the unlikely event that there are a number of unexpected staff absence calls on the morning of the strike action itself, **we may have to close in full**, at short notice. **We will send a message by 7.45am via Edulink, update our website and post via our three main social media channels of Twitter, Facebook and Instagram**, so please keep your eye on these channels on the morning just in case.

I apologise for the disruption this action will cause to your child's usual lessons. Rest assured, we will work with those pupils due to be in school who find disrupted days more challenging ahead of the day to ensure that they are informed and prepared for the different arrangements.

If you have any questions, please contact us in the usual way [hello@houltonschool.org.uk](mailto:hello@houltonschool.org.uk)

Yours faithfully



**Michael McCulley**  
Principal