



Bramcote College

A member of The White Hills Park Trust

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am sure that you have seen in the news that last week the National Education Union (NEU) announced it had met the legal threshold required in order to proceed with industrial action. It has announced dates for strike action, with the following four affecting schools in the East Midlands:

Wednesday 1 February.

Wednesday 1 March

Wednesday 15 March

Thursday 16 March

In addition, although they did not reach the threshold to enable them to call for industrial action, both NAHT and NASUWT confirmed they are considering re-balloting members as the vote for industrial action took place during a postal strike.

At this stage, this is **for information only**. We don't yet know the extent to which our school will be affected, and indeed it is possible that negotiations will mean that the strikes do not go ahead. Schools will give parents and carers as much notice as possible, in case you need to make alternative arrangements on these days. Department for Education guidance says that in the event of a strike, we are expected to take all reasonable steps to keep the school open for as many pupils as possible, and we will make sure this is the case. This duty has to be balanced against the duty to ensure that all pupils are safe and can be adequately supervised.

It is very difficult to plan for staffing on strike days as we cannot know with certainty who will be striking. We will need to prioritise education for exam groups (Year 11 and 13) and also vulnerable pupils. By the start of next week, I hope to be able to let you know if Industrial Action will affect provision for your child.

It is important to stress that this dispute is a national dispute between teaching unions and the government and so there is little that we can do to influence the outcome. It's our strong wish that the dispute can be resolved satisfactorily, and disruption is kept to a minimum.

CANCELLED INSET AFTERNOON

We recognise that industrial action may create potential childcare issues for you. We had planned an early closure INSET afternoon on Monday 30 January and in recognition/anticipation of potential issues on Wednesday 1 February, we will postpone Monday's INSET afternoon and instead school will run until 3:20 pm as normal.

As always, thank you for your support,

Heidi Gale

Headteacher