



# Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School & Sixth Form Centre

*'True Teaching'*

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Dear parent/carers,

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

As you will be aware, the NEU teaching union is planning to take industrial action against national policy on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the NEU and the government and not because of any issues at our school.

While our focus is always to ensure the school is as open and available to students as possible, the majority of our teachers are in the NEU and this will affect us. Staff taking strike action do not have to inform me of their individual intention to take action, and therefore we need to ensure we can manage the school safely.

On **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**, the school will, therefore, only be able to accommodate Year 11 and Sixth Form students, with all other students (Years 7-10) receiving remote learning where their teachers are not on strike. We will provide further information as to the lessons taking place as soon as we are able.

A limited hot and cold food service will be available to students in the canteen for the students from years 11-13 who are in school. Parents entitled to receive Free School Meals will receive a voucher on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

Year 11 Mock Examinations will take place as scheduled and all students are required to attend. We plan on having supervised study rooms available for students at times that they do not have exams. Students are required to bring independent revision material with them to use during these sessions. If we do not have sufficient staffing to accommodate students on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, parents will be advised in the morning, and students will be sent home following their exams. This will be confirmed on the day.

Sixth Form teachers will advise their students of lessons. Some students will be expected to study in the sixth form area if some of their lessons are affected by the strike action. I'm sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education.

Given the uncertainties involved in such action, If there is a need to inform you of any changes we will do so before commencement of classes on the day of the action. In terms of any future strike dates, we will advise you of arrangements nearer the time, and as soon as we are aware.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Simon Uttley  
Headmaster