

7 March 2023

Dear families,

**Strike Action – Update – Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March**

As you will be aware from the previous information we have shared, one of the teaching unions, the National Education Union (NEU), is continuing with their planned strike action over the next couple of months. This is a national strike regarding a dispute between unions and the government over teachers' pay.

The NEU has given notice to us that strikes will impact Dixons Cottingley Academy on 15 March and 16 March.

While we believe discussions are ongoing between unions and the government, which could see some strikes cancelled, we have to make plans for **Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March** on the assumption that action will be taken on that date.

Having considered the number of teachers at school who are members of the NEU, I have made the difficult decision to partially close the school on these dates. On **Wednesday 15 March** the school will remain open for **Year 9 and Year 11 students only**. On **Thursday 16 March** the school will remain open for **Year 8 and Year 11 students only**. We will also be inviting a small number of children who need enhanced support and will confirm directly with those families whose children will be able to attend school.

We have decided to restrict access in this way to ensure that we can provide an appropriate level of supervision and ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of those in school.

For those children not in school the academy will be providing a work pack to be completed at home on the days of strike action.

If there are changes to our plan for responding to the proposed industrial action, I will advise you as soon as possible.

We wanted to communicate as soon as possible so you can plan accordingly. Thank you, as always, for your patience and understanding.

Yours faithfully



Jason Patterson  
**Principal**

