

24th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: School closure due to Industrial Action

You may be aware from media coverage that that National Union for Education (NEU) have declared strike action, which will take place on 1st February 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

I'm writing now to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for 1st February 2023.

The school will be open for Years 11 and 13 only and closed to all other year groups. Both year groups will be expected to attend as normal and any non-attendance on this day will count as an unauthorised absence. Year 11 will follow a timetable which has been designed to focus on their core subjects of English, Maths and Science. The college will be open for study support sessions and will be accessing their work via Teams.

The school canteen will be open for break and lunch at 11.10am and 1.30pm for both year groups. Those students in Years 7-10 and Year 12 who receive free school meals may call to school at 12.00pm to collect a packed lunch from main reception providing one is ordered by 12pm Friday 27th January. Breakfast club and any extracurricular clubs will also be cancelled on this day.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Birchwood Community High School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact Tina Wiegand via the school office or via twiegand@birchwoodhigh.org . Please also use this email address to order a packed lunch if your child receives free school meals.

Kind regards,



Mrs E. Mills
Headteacher