



Smithdon High School
Mrs A Gibbins
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Re: AGi/LT

27 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Partial School Closure due to Strike Action on 1 March 2023

Following on from the strike on 1 February 2023, the second day of The National Education Union [NEU]'s announced strike days is taking place on Wednesday 1 February 2023. This action is happening in schools across the Eastern Region on this occasion - again because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over school funding and pay: this is not because of any local issues or concerns within our school.

At Smithdon High School fifty percent of our teachers are NEU members. As teachers in other unions cannot be asked to cover the lessons of striking colleagues it will not be possible to open the school safely to all students on Wednesday.

On this strike day, the school will be **open to Year 10 and Year 11 students only**.

All remaining year groups (Years 7-9) will have online learning to complete from home and should follow their usual timetable.

Those teachers not striking will provide online lessons through our Google Classroom platform - students will be expected to attend online from 9am (form time is not included) and for the start of every lesson, where an attendance register will be taken and work set to complete or a live lesson will be delivered.

The law does not require workers to declare their individual intention to strike so it will not be possible to tell students which lessons will be available online in advance.

Students should follow their usual school timetable hours and check into the Google Classroom each period to see whether a lesson is being provided. In the event that a lesson has no teacher present in the Google Classroom and no work set, students should complete work from their Knowledge Organiser, Sparx Maths or Oak Academy.

We understand that this situation may be frustrating and we apologise for the inconvenience this may cause you in making alternative arrangements for your child at short notice. I would like to reassure you that we will continue to do everything we can to minimise the disruption to our students' education and we ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

This is a regional strike as part of a national strike programme and so further details of the reasons for this action can be found on the NEU website. We are fortunate to have a team of highly committed teachers at Smithdon and those that have chosen to take strike action will have done so only after serious consideration of the national issues. Smithdon High School and the West Norfolk Academies Trust remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students and delivering high-quality teaching.

If you have any questions please contact office@smithdonhigh.org.uk in the first instance.



Yours sincerely

A. Gibbins,

Mrs A Gibbins
Headteacher