

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER
DORSET DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633
Absences: 01308 861917

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
MR D WITHERS NPQH

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Industrial Action by the National Education Union (NEU), Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March

As you are aware the **National Education Union (NEU)** will be taking further industrial action on **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March**, in response to the ongoing challenges facing our education system - please see the attached NEU leaflet for further information.

I now write to confirm that I expect a significant number of NEU members at Beaminster School to be taking strike action. Therefore, due to the number of staff involved, we will have to adapt our teaching for both these days.

1. **Years 11, 12 and 13 should attend school as normal on both days. School transport will be running as normal.** Year 11 students will continue with their March examinations. 6th Form students will undertake their normal timetable with their usual teachers, or be set self-guided study tasks, revision and online learning should their normal teacher not be present.
2. **Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will NOT be able to routinely come into school.** This is due to the reduced number of staff present so these year groups will work remotely from home. Non-striking staff will set work and a variety of tasks for their lessons via **ClassCharts**. If students have an NEU teacher who is striking, then no directed work will be set for that lesson. Instead, students should use the time to complete homework, read, undertake Bedrock tasks or do self-study linked to the most recent lesson. The use of Seneca, MyMaths and BBC Bitesize are just three of the excellent resources that students should be accessing regularly.
3. Wednesday and Thursday remain a **normal working school day for all students** and we expect them all to undertake the work that has been set for them.
4. We are aware that a small number of students are struggling to complete their studies at home and require a more formal place to work. Therefore, we will be providing supervised study, in school, for those who cannot complete their learning at home; for Years 9 and 10 (only) this will be offered on Wednesday, and for Years 7 and 8 (only) it will be Thursday. **Should you feel your child requires such support please complete the relevant year group form on the links below today so we are aware of the number of students involved.** (NB: the form only needs to be completed if you wish your child to come into school on the designated day).

Years 9 & 10 (Wednesday): <https://forms.office.com/e/0pSFYZ0eEu>

Years 7 & 8 (Thursday): <https://forms.office.com/e/rhxJTpmXhH>

5. We will ensure that all parents/carers of students in **Years 7 to 10** who have **Free School Meals** receive an online supermarket voucher, in advance of these days, to cover the cost of their normal lunch.

The joint statement below has been prepared by local Headteachers, and you can be assured that we are all working very closely together:

This is our school. There are many like us, but we are unique, and our context has shaped the decisions taken and the provisions made. There can be no single model for opening and therefore, what we provide is likely to vary from that provided by other schools, both local and national. Our decisions have been driven by the needs of our students, staff, and community; they reflect our educational approach and our desire to do what is best for our stakeholders within the confines of the current national situation, our local context, and the flexibility of our resources. We continue to use our funding and available resources to the best of our ability, ensuring that we provide the best education possible to the students in our care.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Hales

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