

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware the **National Education Union (NEU)** will be taking its second day of industrial action in the South West on **Thursday 2nd 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 the day.

As Year 11 have their **March Trial Examinations** starting on Wednesday 8th March, they will be revising at home, and we will be inviting Year 10 into school instead.

1. **Years 10, 12 and 13 should attend school as normal.**
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 11 will NOT be able to come into school**
This is due to the reduced number of staff present so these students 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. Thursday 2nd March remains a **normal working school day for students** and we expect them all to undertake the work that has been set for them.
4. In line with DfE guidance, we will be inviting a small number of **vulnerable students** into school to work in the LRC, with support provided.
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 Thursday, 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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