

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Industrial Action by the National Education Union, Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May

As I confirmed on Friday, the **National Education Union (NEU)** will be taking further industrial action on **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**, in response to the ongoing challenges facing our education system - please see the attached NEU leaflet for further information.

Therefore, Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will have to revert to online learning at home so that we can focus our efforts on preparing Years 11 and 13, in school, for their forthcoming examinations. Additionally, I am deeply indebted to our NEU colleagues who have collectively agreed to support revision and examination practice on these days to ensure that there is no loss of learning at this crucial time. In summary:

1. **Years 11 and 13 should attend school as normal.** Year 11 students will undertake their normal timetable with their usual teachers, or be supported with self-guided study tasks, revision and online learning should their normal teacher not be present.
2. **Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will NOT be able to routinely 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 and Tuesday remain a **normal working school day for 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 a supervised study, in school, for the small number of students who cannot complete their learning at home. **If you feel that your child requires this support then we ask that you complete the short form on this link by Wednesday lunchtime:** <https://forms.office.com/e/0pSFYZ0eEu>
5. We will ensure that all parents/carers of students in **Years 7 to 10, and 12** 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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