

30 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will be aware from the news, teaching staff who are members of the National Education Union (NEU) were balloted, with the outcome being that there are planned strike days for teachers in July. The NEU represents a significant number of teachers at Montsaye Academy. This union will be taking industrial action in the form of strike action on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July 2023.

After careful consideration, given the potential number of teachers striking I have decided that the impact of the strike will prevent us from providing safe, appropriate provision for all of our pupils. The decision to close the school to any pupils is never taken lightly, but where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, I must take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety and well-being of pupils and remaining staff. Details of the day are below:

- The school will be **closed to pupils in years 7-9** on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July and learning activities will be set for completion at home.
- The school will remain **open to pupils in years 10 and 12 on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July.** Pupils in year 10 will be expected to arrive at line-ups in the sports hall in the normal manner at 8.40am. Please see their timetable below for further information about how their day will be structured. You will notice some slight changes to the order of mock exams due to the strike action. It is essential that all year 10 are in attendance. Please note that after school intervention and clubs will not be running on Wednesday 5th or Friday 7th July.
- Year 12 students are to only to attend school if they have a mock exam at a specified time on their exam timetables, otherwise they remain on study leave to work at home independently. The sixth form centre will not be open.

Year 10 timetable for strike days (5th and 7th July 2023):

Wednesday 5 th July	
Time	
8.40 – 9.00am	Line ups in the sports hall, key messages for the day
9.00 – 10.45am	English Language mock exam
10.45 – 11.30am	Break in the restaurant

11.30 – 1.00pm	Maths Paper 2 mock exam
1.00pm	Pupils are permitted to go home
1.30pm	Buses to Desborough and villages – pupils will need to wait in the library if they need to get on a bus

Friday 7th July	
Time	
8.40 – 9.00am	Line ups in the sports hall, key messages for the day
9.00 – 10.30am	Maths Paper 3 mock exam
10.30 – 11.15am	Break in the restaurant
11.15 – 12.30pm	Combined Physics mock exam
11.15 – 1.00pm	Single Science Physics mock
12.30 – 1.00pm	Students permitted to go home depending on mock exam finish time
1.30pm	Buses to Desborough and villages – students will need to wait in the library if they need to get on a bus

A limited number of places are available to eligible pupils in other year groups. Please contact your child's progress leader if you think your child is eligible by 12pm on Tuesday 4th July 2023.

Provision will be made for pupils in receipt of free school meals. They will be able to collect these from the restaurant before the end of the day on Tuesday 4th July, for Wednesday. They will be able to collect these from the restaurant before the end of the day on Thursday 6th July, for Friday.

I appreciate that the industrial action is disruptive, but we will continue to work hard to ensure our young people are supported appropriately through this unsettled period.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully



Emma Sims
CEO, Pathfinder Schools



Gopal Baria
Acting Principal