



10th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Industrial Action – 15th & 16th March 2023

On Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March members of the National Education Union (NEU) plan to take industrial action. I have previously outlined the challenges of planning ahead as NEU members are not required to inform their school in advance if they plan to take action. In addition, members of staff who are not part of this union and not taking strike action cannot be required to carry out activity or duty to cover for those members of staff taking action. As a result, due to the complex nature of secondary school timetables, it is a challenge to be able to offer provision that will ensure we have adequate supervision of numbers of students. It has been my desire to offer provision to students in KS3; however, modelling exercises show that it will not be possible to guarantee the safety and supervision of students. Therefore, arrangements for the two days are outlined below.

Year 7, 8, 9, 10 Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March – Students will remain at home. We will provide remote learning, and this will be a blend of live lessons (by staff who are at work and not taking industrial action) and remote materials that will be signposted or made available to year group cohorts where live lessons are not available. Guidance for accessing live lessons via Google Classroom was shared with families prior to the first strike day. Students should log on to Google Classroom at 8.30am where they will see which lessons will be 'live' and in which lessons they should study independently. It is important that students access this educational provision. Students will also need to register at 8.30am using a Google form which will be on Google Classroom. If students will struggle to access online materials, please contact your child's College Headteacher.

Year 11 – Year 11 students will be offered some provision in recognition of the fact that they are getting closer to exams.

Wednesday 15th March – Year 11 Aquila and Phoenix students should arrive onsite for 8.30am and register in tutor rooms. They will remain at school from 8.30am until 11.30am and complete Walking Talking Mocks and a Masterclass in English and Maths. Students will be able to access food at breaktime. They should complete their own revision at home during the afternoon.

Thursday 16th March – Year 11 Orion and Pegasus students should arrive onsite for 8.30am and register in tutor rooms. They will remain at school from 8.30am until 11.30am and complete Walking Talking Mocks and a Masterclass in English and Maths. Students will be able to access food at breaktime. They should complete their own revision at home during the afternoon.

In addition, a small number of Year 11 students who have imminent practical exams or special circumstances will be invited to stay for the whole day to complete exam preparation by their subject teachers.

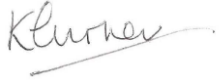
College VI – College VI students will be able to come into school as normal. By 8.30am we will share on site the list of lessons which will take place as usual and which lessons will be study periods. We will provide supervised study zones for students to work in when their lessons are not running. It is more possible to operate in this way for College VI due to smaller year group sizes and differences in approaches to independent study at school. Students will be able to use the College VI Café as normal and the usual dress code will apply.

Other Provision – Again, we will operate an on-site provision for a small number of other students we feel will require support and supervision on the day. We will not be able to provide this to many students as we cannot guarantee the safe supervision of large numbers of students. Parents or carers of students identified

by colleagues in the Mackay College will be contacted by Mrs Langan to invite them into school for supported study. Parents of students who are eligible for Free School Meals will receive a letter inviting them to book a packed lunch which can be collected at the end of the day on Tuesday 14th March.

As I did previously, I would like to offer my apologies for the disruption this may cause to families and thank you for understanding the challenges of planning for provision under uncertain conditions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'K. Turner', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mrs K Turner
Principal