



Diocese of St. Albans



10 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to my previous letter of 27 February, the NEU (National Educational Union) have said that their union members are taking industrial action in the form of a strike. I can confirm that the following dates affect our school:

1. Wednesday 15th March 2023
2. Thursday 16th March 2023

Please note, Hertfordshire is in the Eastern region of England and strike days may vary from other local authorities (eg, Enfield).

This strike action is not against the school itself but is against the Government. There is no obligation for the union to inform me of which of their members of staff will take strike action and this adds to the difficulty of planning for a strike day.

As with Covid and poor weather (snow), my intention is always to keep the school open wherever possible, but the main consideration is for the health and safety of the community. For this reason I have decided that on Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March 2023 we will be

Open* to

- Year 11 students
- Year 12 / Year 13 students, but they should only attend school if they have timetabled lessons on this day. Students with 'study days' may work at home
- Vulnerable students (we will contact relevant families offering provision in school for this day).

Closed to

- Year 7
- Year 8
- Year 9
- Year 10

**For Year 11 (and sixth form students with timetabled lessons), as parents/carers please do not accept 'it is not worth going in for one day' or 'no one else is going in' from your child – Year 11 PPE will run all week as planned, including the Wednesday and Thursday.*

Wherever possible for those students at home on this day, work will be set online and your child should log on to check Google classroom at the start of the day (by 9am), and complete work by 4pm. However, please be aware that rules on strike action mean that cover work may not be set universally.

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354
e: admin@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk w: www.st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

*'Students feel happy and safe at school' OFSTED 2019
'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community' SIAMS Inspection 2020*

St Mary's CE Academy, Cheshunt, is a limited company registered in England and Wales
Company No. 07999861 Registered Office: As above

There will always be variances as to how each school locally can plan for the strikes. It will vary depending on how many staff each school has that are in the NEU and how many of these decide to take strike action on each of these days.

We must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible.

Please know that I will keep you fully informed of arrangements at the earliest opportunity, but some information will come at short notice and may therefore cause some inconvenience to you, which I apologise for but which I may not be able to avoid.

Yours faithfully



Nicholas Simms
Head Teacher

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

Lieutenant Ellis Way, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire EN7 5FB t: 01992 629124 f: 01992 643354
e: admin@st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk w: www.st-maryshigh.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Nicholas Simms B.Sc. (Hons), NPQH

'Students feel happy and safe at school' OFSTED 2019
'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community' SIAMS Inspection 2020