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Dear Parents & Carers

I do hope this finds you all well as we head into the Half Term break. This letter is to be read in conjunction with my usual end of term round up in the parent bulletin located [here](#).

The second day of four planned days where teachers of the National Education Union can strike and therefore not be available to attend school for work or set work of any kind takes place in the week of our return, Wednesday 1 March. Again I wanted to give as much notice as possible to support your planning as our school operating system will again be required to change.

We plan to deliver the day in the same fashion as earlier in the month, where the school site will be open for students in Years 11, 12 and 13 where a full and normal timetable will be in operation, all students in those years should attend as normal. In the event that the subject teacher is not in school for the timetabled lesson (whether for striking purposes, illness or other) then students in sixth form can still access all the usual support spaces and resources normally available to them. Lessons for Year 11 students will be covered as is normal practice and time will be provided for structured revision.

As our next step in supporting the Year 10 students with the preparations for their GCSE RE examinations this summer, Mrs McGwinn (Subject Leader RE) will be running a 2 hour seminar for all Y10 students. We ask that the remaining periods of the day are spent at home remote learning, continuing with the work set for their lessons that day. The seminars will take place in the Theatre at the following times and students should arrive in full school uniform and enter and exit via the front of school:

10X band: Periods 1 and 2 (Arrive for 8:40am, Depart at 10:50am)

10Y band: Periods 3 and 4 (Arrive for 11:10am, Depart at 1:20pm)

If you are unsure which band your child is in then please look at their timetable on GO4Schools and the letter immediately after the 10 in the name of their RE class will indicate this, for example:

Religious Studies indicates that the student is in Y band.

10Y1/Re

Students in Years 7-9 will be asked to work remotely from home for the day. Work will be set on Go4Schools in the same way as homework tasks so this will be viewable by both students and parents. If you need any help with logging in to Go4Schools please see the [G4S page](#) of our website. As well as work set by any available teachers your child would normally have, students will be allocated an activity to complete as part of their Personal, Social and Health education. The topic this half term is on gaming, gambling and prevention of harm online. Your child will see the task appear as a Homework task set through their tutor group.

As well as these set tasks we would also encourage all students to read for pleasure.

In addition, we have identified and will be writing separately to a small group of students in Years 7-10 who are our most vulnerable learners. Those students will not attend normal lessons but will be supported to access on line learning with many of our pastoral support staff who they are familiar with and will work in adapted areas of the school.

We are very conscious that for some families the cost of living crisis continues to add extra pressures so we will continue to support those eligible for Free School Meals. Students in Years 7-9, remote learning and eligible can be provided with a packed lunch on Wednesday 1 March. This will need to be pre-ordered by the end of Tuesday 28 February by completing the order form [here](#). Packed lunches will then be available for collection on Wednesday between 1:00pm and 1:30pm from the dining room – Students need not attend in uniform and can access the school direct at the front by the canteen.

All students will be back at school on Thursday the 2 March for a normal days teaching and work. Please do discuss the plans for Wednesday with your child. All students will be informed on Monday 27 February during Tutor time where staff can support any specific queries.

Have a great weekend.

Mike Lowdell
Head Teacher