

27th January 2023



Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union (NEU) has declared strike action, which will take place on Wednesday 1st February (with further strikes planned for: Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March). The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government and not because of any issues at our school.

I am getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for **Wednesday 1st February 2023**.

After undertaking a risk assessment (taking into account the potential number of teachers who may take action, the number of students who will need supervision in order to be safe, the need to accommodate our students who are near to national assessments as well as those who are our most vulnerable) we have made the following decisions:

School will be open for:

Year 11 and Year 13 students, our most vulnerable students including those with an EHCP, and children of emergency service keyworkers (NHS, Police, Fire and Ambulance - please only send your child if they are of an age requiring childcare and if you have no other alternative provision).

Provision for learning:

Years 7 – 10 and Year 12 students will be working from home: Learners will be provided with access to work designed to support and develop learning linked to the curriculum offer of the core subjects. Links for Maths, English and Science will be available on our website.

Vulnerable students: Learners will be supervised and supported in areas where they will have access to the internet so that the same work can be completed as those learners who are working at home.

Year 11 students: Students will complete a blend of timetabled lessons and 'Steps to Success' structured support. Please see further information overleaf regarding external exams/assessments.

Year 13 students: Students will follow a blend of timetabled lessons and learning support.

Catering:

Provision will be made as usual for students who will be on site. If your child is in Years 7-10 or Year 12 and in receipt of Free School Meals, we will send you an electronic voucher via email to the value of £2.60.

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Transport arrangements:

Transport, including late buses, will be running as usual.

After school activities:

Year 11 period 6 (3pm-4pm) will run as normal, however no after school clubs will take place.

Impact on exams

The scheduled Year 11 BTEC ICT exam will take place as normal in the morning. Those students completing the Food Preparation and Nutrition non-exam assessment (coursework) will complete their assessed trial in the afternoon, as planned. This work covers 35% of the final grade of this GCSE.

It is essential that students completing their scheduled BTEC ICT exam and Food Technology assessments attend these sessions. Please note that, as per our exams policy, any students who miss an external exam without evidence for their absence will be charged.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and/or that your child will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Holderness Academy & Sixth Form remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact us via email – office@holderness.academy

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N Holder', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mr N Holder
Headteacher