



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER
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Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware from recent media reports, and from correspondence from Caerphilly Council's education department, that the teaching union NEU has planned a national strike for Wednesday 1st February. Although there are still negotiations ongoing with Welsh Government, we now have to assume that the strike will go ahead.

Following a risk assessment on the number of staff likely to be taking industrial action on the day and the implications for pupil safety, we have taken the decision to **close the school to all pupils on that day**. This has been a very difficult decision to take but lessons cannot be covered by non-striking teachers or supply teachers, and therefore pupils would have had large parts of their timetables without appropriate supervision which creates a significant safety risk.

All staff not striking on the day will be working in school. Pupils in years 7, 8, 9 and 11 have key resources for their year group on their Google Classroom which they can work through; pupils in year 10 have upcoming exams and they should continue to work from the revision materials for these which staff have previously supplied.

NEU has also announced further dates for planned industrial action of Tuesday 14th February and Wednesday and Thursday 15th-16th March. I will update you of school plans for these days closer to the time when the impact on the school will be clearer.

If the situation changes before Wednesday I will let you know.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. A. Thompson
Headteacher