

PRINCE HENRY'S HIGH SCHOOL

An "Outstanding" Academy for Students aged 13-18

Headteacher: Dr A A L Evans BSc(Hons), PhD



15th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of what has been a very busy and successful half-term, culminating in our wonderful school musical, which I know many of you were able to see, I wish to provide you with plenty of notice of the implications of the proposed industrial action that is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 1st March 2023.

As I have mentioned in my previous letter of 26th January 2023, it is important to understand that the proposed industrial action has nothing to do with Prince Henry's, but is part of a national dispute between the unions and the government. The information I provided in that letter in relation to the government's advice to schools and the practical considerations that need to be taken into account are unchanged.

Throughout this dispute, staff at Prince Henry's have consistently made it clear to me that they are reluctantly taking industrial action and that this is targeted against government policy. This is because the pay award recommended for the teaching profession has not been fully funded, and therefore the balance of the money to fund the agreed pay award has to come from the core school budget. Inevitably, this diverts precious resources away from children's education. Whilst the NEU have declared four days of strike action across the West Midlands, staff at Prince Henry's have sought to minimise the disruption to the education of students here, whilst still expressing their concerns about government policy. Therefore, on a local basis, I have been made aware that NEU colleagues at Prince Henry's plan to take action on three of these days, rather than four.

Therefore, I can inform you that any industrial action that takes place on 1st March will have a minimal impact upon Prince Henry's, and all students will attend school as normal on that day. However, unless there is a resolution between the NEU and the government in the interim, I am letting you know with good notice that we anticipate there may be a partial school closure on both Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023, should those planned days of industrial action go ahead. I will come back to you with further information regarding this nearer the time.

As ever, thank you for your continued support, and may I take this opportunity to wish you and your families an enjoyable half-term break.

Yours sincerely

Dr A Evans
Headteacher

Victoria Avenue, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 4QH

t: 01386 765588 • f: 01386 40760 • e: enquiries@princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk • www.princehenrys.worcs.sch.uk

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Working in collaboration with Bredon Hill and St Ewain's Middle Schools