

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS0 0RG
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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



27 January 2023

Dear Parent

Industrial Action – Wednesday 1st March

As you will know, teacher members of the National Education Union are collectively undertaking lawful industrial action on Wednesday 1st March, withdrawing their labour in pursuance of a dispute with the Government regarding teacher salary levels and school funding.

I can confirm, first, that **provision for the Year 11 mock examinations will continue**. This is possible as staffing for the mock examinations is provided almost entirely from our team of external invigilators. **Year 11 pupils** are required to be in school *only* when they are scheduled to be in the examination hall, although they are welcome to be on-site (in the Library or Pavilion) for revision.

However, **for all other pupils there will be no lesson provision on site**. The number of NEU members joining the strike and the consequent scale of the action, coupled with the level of uncertainty, is such that we cannot – with confidence – provide any class with both the majority of their timetabled lessons and the necessary supervision for those times when they are not being taught.

All pupil absences will be recorded in a way that does not diminish their record of attendance.

A limited catering service will be operating in the Dining Hall only, available to Year 11 students. Pupils entitled to free school meals can expect to be provided with a voucher equivalent.

We do not anticipate being in a position to provide supplementary on-site supervision for any sub-group of pupils; but we will be communicating with the families of those where there may be additional concerns regarding the closure or previously identified needs.

Teachers who are not striking will provide – using appropriate online resources and tools – worthwhile and productive learning activities for their classes. The exact format of these tasks, activities and engagement is a matter of professional discretion; however, relevant directions for all these lessons are to be posted on Satchel One.



Pupils will not know in advance which, if any, of their timetabled teachers will be available to provide 'lessons', so will need to remain attentive to what is posted on Satchel One and will need to consider what else they might profitably do in any 'gaps' during the day. (No provision is to be made for the classes who are timetabled to be with those teachers who are on strike; nonetheless, pupils in such classes may well have pre-established access to worthwhile subject-related resources with which they may choose to engage.)

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Bevan'.

Robin M. Bevan
Headteacher