



# The Ripley Academy and Sixth Form

Executive Headteacher: **Mrs H Frost-Briggs** BA (Hons)



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Head of School: **Mr J de Rijk** BA (Hons)  
Deputy Headteacher: **Mrs J Thawley** BSc (Hons)  
Deputy Headteacher: **Mr M Kirkland** BSc (Hons)  
Assistant Headteacher: **Mr S Kingsland** BSc (Hons)

16 February 2023

Dear Parent Carer

As you may be aware from the media, the National Education Union (NEU) will be continuing its industrial action on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Further scheduled dates are 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March.

The strike is happening as a result of a dispute between the unions and the secretary of state regarding teachers' pay and is not against the school in any way.

As mentioned in Mrs Frost-Briggs' previous letter, the leadership team's key responsibility is to minimise the impact of this strike action on the children and their education and to place their safeguarding as paramount.

As there are a significant number of NEU members at The Ripley Academy, this will mean a partial school closure on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. **The school will be open to Year 10 and 11 students only.** All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 as well as in the sixth form will be expected to complete a programme of remote curriculum lessons from home, which the school will be providing through Classcharts. Should you have any issues accessing remote education then please ring the main reception on 01773 746334 for assistance.

Year 11 will be completing two of their mock examinations that day and it is vitally important that students attend as these are an important step in their preparation for the summer's GCSE exams. The first exam will start at 8.40 am and students are expected to be ready at the examination room for a prompt start.

Year 10 will follow a "Preparation for GCSE" drop-down day; a carousel of maths, English, science and well-being activities. Students will need to bring their PE kit into school with them.

If your child receives free school meals and is not scheduled to be in school on this day you will be able to order and pick up a packed lunch for your child, should you require it. If you would like to do this, please ring the main reception on 01773 746334 prior to 3 pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

I am sorry about the disruption to your child's education. I do recognise how challenging and frustrating this may be for parents/carers and I remain hopeful that this dispute between Unions and the Government can be resolved quickly.

Yours faithfully

Mr Jan de Rijk

Head of School

**The Ripley Academy, Peasehill, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3JQ**