



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)

Dear Parent Carer

As you may be aware the National Education Union (NEU) will be continuing its industrial action on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th 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.

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 15th and Thursday 16th March. **The school will be open to Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students only.** All students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 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 mock examinations on each of the days and it is vitally important that students attend as these are an important step in their preparation for the summer's GCSE exams. Year 11 students should proceed directly to their exams on both of the days.

Year 12 and 13 students will have access to a study space in school and will attend lessons where staffing allows. A list of lessons taking place each day will be published in the 6th form common room.

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 13th March.

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

Jan de Rijk

Head of School

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