



13 March 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Re: Planned Industrial Action by the National Education Union (NEU)

I recently wrote to you to outline that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared strike action, which will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

The strikes are part of the formal trade dispute between the NEU and the government regarding teacher recruitment and retention, including pay, and not because of any issues at Stafford Manor High School.

The problems in teacher recruitment and retention are real and evident in schools across the country. The target for the recruitment of new secondary school teachers was missed this year, with only 59% of the target met.

This is the ninth year out of the last ten that the recruitment target has been missed and it does make it highly challenging for all schools to recruit specialist teachers in most areas of the curriculum.

At the heart of industrial action lies the firm belief by members of the NEU that such action will hopefully affect change and improvements to the education of all children.

School leaders and governors at Stafford Manor High School appreciate the inconvenience that closing the school may cause but unfortunately **we will need to close for Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March.**

Students in Year 8, 9 and 10 will be able to access their normal timetable on SMHW, unless their teacher is striking. It is regrettable that we have to ask children in Year 8, 9 and 10 to work from home, and I hope that they will be able to access and complete the work that is set for them.

We plan for Year 7 and 11 students to be in school as normal and will be able to access their lessons on site.

The decision to ask students to work from home is not something that is made lightly and I appreciate your continued support for the school.

Yours faithfully

Rhys Adams
Headteacher

**Headteacher:
Mr R Adams**

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