



June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

You will probably be aware from recent media coverage that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared additional strike action, which will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday 5 July
- Friday 7 July

There is no obligation for teachers to notify us of their intention to strike but at present, from the information we have received from teachers at Stafford Manor High School, we have adequate staffing levels to remain open for the students shown below.

- **Wednesday 5 July** – Year 7 and 9 in school or on residential. Year 8 and 10 will not be in school.
- **Friday 7 July** – Year 7 and 8 in school or on residential. Year 10 Art and Textiles exam students in school. Year 9 and the remainder Y10 students will not be in school.

Should we need to take the unfortunate decision to close for more students on any of the days shown above, we will inform you as soon as possible each morning via text and email. We will also update the website each day too with any planned changes to being open.

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 and we do everything we can to remain open for as many students as possible during industrial action.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Rhys Adams
Headteacher

Headteacher:
Mr R Adams

Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 9DJ

Tel: (01785) 258383

Email: office@smhs.staffs.sch.uk