



WELLNESS
AMBITION
TOGETHERNESS
CONFIDENCE
HONESTY

CHOSEN HILL SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

Mr M Pauling, Headteacher

Brookfield Road
Churchdown
Gloucester
GL3 2PL
(Registered Office)

20th January 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

As has been highlighted in the media, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its members whom are teachers, will be taking industrial action in Gloucestershire on the following dates:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Thursday 2nd March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

It is important to stress that this potential industrial action is only being called by NEU members and not all teachers, as some of the media has been reporting.

The strike days have been called over concerns amongst its members about the chronic underfunding of teachers and the impact that this is having on recruitment and retention of staff to the profession nationally. This action on these days has been supported by a ballot of eligible members and has subsequently met the legal threshold in terms of numbers of votes for the strike.

I ask that we respect the decision of any teacher who decides to take industrial action. Their action is focussed on the Government. I ask that we show the same respect to their decisions as we have shown other members of our Chosen Hill parent community who may be NHS nurses or postal workers.

It is possible that action on these days could be called off, if agreement between the Government and the union can be found. However, if this is not the case, it is likely that there will be significant disruption on these days, including potentially closing the school to some year groups. It is my intention to keep the school open to as many students as possible on these days, if safe to do so.

There are a significant number of teaching staff at Chosen Hill School that are members of the NEU. These staff are not obliged to share their intention to strike ahead of the nominated days. Over the next week we will be taking time to plan Wednesday 1st February. It is my intention to communicate with you a provisional plan for how we intend to open the school safely, by Wednesday 25th January.

We will prioritise the examination cohorts (Y11/13) and our most vulnerable students in our plans. I am writing to you today so that you are able to make contingency plans if the school is closed to your child on the strike day.

TEL | 01452 713488 **EMAIL** | office@chosenhillschool.co.uk **WEBSITE** | chosenhillschool.co.uk

Chosen Hill School: a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales Company Number 7550474



Whilst respecting the right for sanctioned industrial action by teacher members of the NEU to highlight their concerns regarding pay and the negative impact this is having on recruitment and retention of teachers, I do appreciate that these strike days will be disruptive to many in our school community.

Thank you for your understanding

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Pauling', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr Matt Pauling
Headteacher