

16th February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared strike action, the first of which will take place on Wednesday 1st March 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over a lack of funding in education, teachers' pay and the recruitment and retention crisis in teaching and not because of any issues at our school. This is a national strike.

We are sorry to inform you that St Thomas More Voluntary Academy will be closed to pupils in Years 8, 9 & 10 on Wednesday 1st March. Please do not send your child/ren in these year groups to St Thomas More Academy on this day.

This decision has not been taken lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils; however, we would be unable to provide this with the very limited staff we have available, in school, on this day.

We are sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. We understand that this situation may be frustrating.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation and the planned future strike action dates in March. We will inform you as soon as we are able to make arrangements for these.

Please find below guidance on work pupils can access on Wednesday 1st March.

For pupils in Years 8, 9 & 10, they can complete the following tasks:

- Create quizzes and/or mind map previously taught content using their Knowledge Organisers.
- Focus on practicing key vocabulary and learning key words for each subject using their knowledge Organisers.
- For Maths, pupils have their Maths watch accounts where they can complete and/or revise different topics.
- For all other subjects students can access work via their Fusion accounts.
- Access a PSHE project through the schools VLE account.

Finally, we encourage all pupils to use the time to complete any current or outstanding homework.

If you have any questions, please contact school on enquiries@stm.srscmat.co.uk

Kind regards,

Mrs S Lancett
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs L Morris
Executive Headteacher

