Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware from media coverage that teaching unions have declared strike action, the next of which will take place on **Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July.**  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 Catholic Voluntary Academy will be closed to pupils as outlined below:

**Closed to Years 8 and 9 on Wednesday 5th July.**

**Closed to Years 8,9 and 10 on Friday 7th July.**

Please do not send child/ren from the year groups above to St Thomas More Academy on this day.

**All transition days will run as planned.**

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 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 any planned future strike action.

Please find below guidance on work pupils can access on these dates.

Pupils 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 Oak Academy, please follow the link below: <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>

Please note: Students will need to select KS3 if they are in Years 7-9 or KS4 if they are in 10.  Then, select the Subject and Topic which is appropriate/ they are learning in class.

* Work through identified topics using maths watch.
* Access a PSHE project through the schools VLE account, fusion.

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](mailto:enquiries@stm.srscmat.co.uk)

A picture containing handwriting, font, text, calligraphy

Description automatically generatedKind regards,

A close-up of a word

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Mrs S Lancett** **Mrs L Morris**

**Acting Head of School**  **Executive Headteacher**