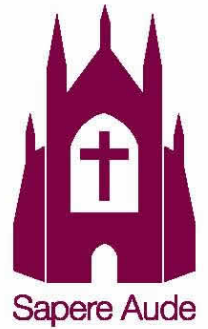


22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011



Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer

### Industrial Action

You will be aware that most public sector trade unions are planning or considering strike action on 30<sup>th</sup> November. The action is as a result of a dispute between the public sector workers and the government, not the school. In the newsletter last week which was emailed home to parents, and is also available on our website, I placed parents on notice to prepare alternative provision for 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Mallard Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset BH8 9PW  
T : 01202 512697  
F : 01202 513181  
E : office@tbowa.org  
W : www.tbowa.org

I can understand that parents may be frustrated by the stance taken by both sides in the dispute and the negative consequences this will have for their children's education. As a parent myself I understand how frustrating and inconvenient this will be. I would like to assure you that I will consider the decision very carefully.

At this point I cannot confirm which staff will be involved in industrial action. In addition, the strike has been called whilst negotiations between the unions and the government are ongoing, so there is a chance that a resolution will be reached before 30<sup>th</sup> November.

At this stage I wanted to outline the possible impact on your son or daughter and how we will communicate with you as 30<sup>th</sup> November draws closer. I know that some parents and carers will need to make alternative child care arrangements and I want to give you as much notice as possible.

By Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November I should have a clearer idea of how many staff intend to strike. By then I will know the classes and students affected and will let you know. One outcome is complete closure, I must stress that this decision has not yet been taken. If it is possible to run a normal school day for some students, we will do so. Please be aware that I am not allowed to use non-striking staff to take classes belonging to striking staff. Information on which year groups are affected will go on our website, be emailed to all parents who have given us an email address, and be sent via text as well.

If there is disruption, general work will be available on the 'I am learning' website for those students who do not have classes that day, although staff who are striking will not be providing specific work for their lessons. Most Year 10s have coursework, and Year 11 will be revising for the mock exams which occur in December.

I fully appreciate that this action may well cause some difficulties for you and I regret the need to write to you to inform you of the likely disruption. I will make sure that you are kept fully informed and know the position with regard to your son or daughter as soon as we have some clarity.

Finally, as you are aware the school is shut on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December as per the school calendar. This decision was made last academic year well in advance of the current industrial dispute.

Yours sincerely

Paul McKeown  
Principal

---

## The Bishop of Winchester Academy

Principal Paul McKeown, MA (Ed), BA (Hons), NPQH