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Friday 24th February 2023

Dear St Martin's Family,

Staff Strikes - Thursday 2nd March 2023

You may be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union have declared strike action, which will take place on Thursday 2nd March 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

I am sorry to inform you that St Martin's will be closed to most students on 2nd March 2023. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day, if they are in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

The school will be open to students in Years 11 and 13 who are sitting Pre Public Exams (PPEs). Once students have sat their exams they will be permitted to revise from home.

Year 12 and Year 13 students not sitting exams will be permitted to attend their timetabled lessons with teachers who are available, this will be communicated with students directly.

We have not taken this decision to partially close lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and feel that we would be unable to provide safe supervision with the staff we have available.

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 Students will receive work via Google classroom. Your child will need to follow their Thursday Timetable and complete the work set by their teachers.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child, that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

Your sincerely,

Ms Okokon Headteacher

