

29th November 2011

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Important Update on Industrial Action, Wednesday 30th November 2011

The decision has been made that the academy will not be open to students on Wednesday 30th November 2011. Staff who do not opt to follow this day of action will be working to prepare materials and assessment to continue the students learning when they are back in the academy.

As you are aware we have been informed by the following unions: NAHT, ATL, NUT, Unison, GMB, NASUWT that they will be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on Wednesday 30th November 2011.

This action is not against the academy itself but is part of national industrial action organised by these trades unions about changes to the pensions schemes of their members.

There is no requirement on unions to inform us of which members of staff will take action, and it may be that they will not know themselves as there is no obligation on members of unions to obey a strike call.

Neither the Governing Body nor the Principal is legally allowed to close the academy 'in sympathy' with the strike and we are not doing so. However, our main concern is the safety of our students. The academy will be closed because in the opinion of the Principal and the Chair of the Governing Body it is not safe to remain open and if we cannot provide a meaningful programme of study.

Having been given an indication of the staff numbers likely to be involved, it appears that all students and staff will be affected by this day of action as we will not be able to open the academy buildings to provide lessons or have suitable arrangements for health and safety or food.

We must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs B King
Principal

Rev. B Duckworth
Chair of Governors