



**Principal: Mr S Cooper**

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9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Possible industrial action and end of term and 13:00 finish on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December**

As we reach the festive season and the end of an incredibly successful term, I hope that you and your family are well and looking forward to a break over the coming holiday period. I am writing both to highlight some potential disruption over the coming days and to confirm the arrangements for the end of term on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December.

**Possible industrial action**

I have been notified that staff in the NASUWT teaching union intend to engage in 'action short of strike' which will begin this coming **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December**. While we hope that teaching and learning and the usual school day will not be affected, I must inform you that should the action proceed there is a possibility that some year groups may be asked to remain at home, or sent home, throughout the course of the day. Please be assured that asking students to stay at home, or sending students home, will be an absolute last resort and we will do all within our power to avoid this.

At this time, I am writing for your information only and students must continue to attend school, as normal. Should there be any change, parents and carers will be advised, without delay.

Safety will be assessed on **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December** once the proposed action begins. It is important to send your child to school as normal, on Wednesday, as it is our intention to maintain normal operations, if possible. However, please be aware that we may communicate with you, via text or email, on Wednesday should we need to send your child/ren home. Students will not be sent home without confirmation that you are aware they are leaving site. Should your child be sent home, we will set work for them to complete remotely either via details in their planner or google classroom.

The proposed 'action short of strike' is continuous which means there may be an ongoing impact on the ability of the school to remain fully open to all year groups after **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December**. We will communicate all changes with you as soon as is possible. Please be assured we will endeavour to reduce the impact on students and will prioritise year groups with public examination this academic year and younger students who will be less able to work independently at home.

I thank you in advance for your support and I hope that this is something we are able to avoid so that all pupils remain in school engaging in effective, face-to-face education as normal.

**End of term and 13:00 finish on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December**

In line with previous years, and as is common practice across most schools, Gable Hall will close early at the end of term on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. There will be a staggered dismissal of students at the following times:

- Year 11 and 13 pupils dismissed at 12:40
- Year 10 pupils dismissed at 12:45
- Year 9 pupils dismissed at 12:50
- Year 8 pupils dismissed at 12:55
- Year 7 pupils dismissed at 13:00

Students entitled to Free School Meals will be able to use their daily allowance to purchase food at break time. For those travelling on the Kean bus, we have communicated this early finish with the company so your child can travel home on the bus as normal.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support and I take this opportunity to I wish you all a successful end to the year and a very merry festive season.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Cooper', written over a horizontal line.

Mr S Cooper  
Principal  
Ortu Gable Hall School