



**ST. MATTHEW'S**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
Voluntary Academy



**EMMAUS**  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

27 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

You may be aware from the media that the National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its ballot of members has met the threshold required to commence industrial action. NEU staff will have the option to strike. The action will take place **on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March.**

The strike action is happening because of a dispute between the government and unions over pay, not because of any issues at our school.

Many of our teaching staff in school are members of the NEU, which means it will not be possible to fully open. We must prioritise Year 11 who have their GCSE exams in a few months and therefore, **all students in Year 11 should attend school as normal** next Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. **School will be closed for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.** These year groups will be set online learning for them to complete during the day, and they will be expected to attend school as normal from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

Making this decision was not easy. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students and with the limited staff available this will not be possible next Wednesday.

Thank you for your support and our sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Atkin  
**Deputy Headteacher**