

January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Arrangements for Year 11 Students on Wednesday 1 February 2023

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that we have had to make changes to our planned arrangements for Year 11 students on the first day of NEU's industrial action, Wednesday 1 February. As you know from previous correspondence, we felt that we were able to open the school for Year 13 so that they could continue with their mock exams unaffected and unhindered, and also to Year 11, so as to prioritise both year groups which have external exams this summer.

I'm sorry to say that the situation has changed over the past two days and it is now clear that we cannot offer Year 11 what we had intended to. Therefore, I must now share with you the only option we have available to us.

Senior leaders will run what we call 'supervised study' sessions for Year 11 all day on Wednesday, meaning that students will sit in large venues (e.g. the school hall or the canteen) and complete work that they may bring with them or can access from a device. We have a large number of Chromebooks available, but not enough for all students, so these will need to be used on a rota.

Given that this is such a limited offer, I completely understand if you would prefer to keep your child at home on Wednesday and allow them to complete work that will be available for them online. However, you are very welcome to send your child into school if you feel they will work better here and they will be supervised. School buses will be running as normal, food will be available in our canteen and students may attend in non-uniform.

If your child will be working at home on Wednesday, please email us on absence@theweald.org.uk to let us know. If you do wish them to attend, please ask them to report to the school hall upon their arrival for registration purposes. If we have not heard from you by Wednesday morning and your child does not attend, we will send our usual absence notification via text message.

Once again I'm very sorry to have to change the plan for our students and please be assured that we have explored every other option. Our provision for students deemed to be vulnerable remains unchanged; we will accommodate these young people as per Mr Brimacombe's correspondence with their parents/carers.

Ms Sorrell and Miss Cortizo will write to students (and copy you in) on Monday with a reminder for how to access resources online to support revision towards their exams.

Yours faithfully,



**Mrs Sarah Edwards
Headteacher**

