

26th January 2023

**Dear Parent Carer** 

Following my communication with you earlier in the week I am updating you on the provision Redhill School will be able to offer next Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February.

I'm sorry to inform you that we will be closed for students on the above date. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day. We have not taken this decision lightly.

We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and feel that we would be unable to provide this with the staff we have available. We have a significant number of staff who may be taking industrial action and following my risk assessment, opening the school to all students could be unsafe.

Those members of teaching staff who are in school on the day, will be providing online learning for their classes via our Google platform. We will work with your child over the next few days to ensure that they are ready and available to access these learning opportunities. If your child is due to be taught by a member of staff taking industrial action, then we will not be able to offer them learning for their timetabled lesson. Further information regarding our online learning provision will be shared with you on Monday.

We have a small number of spaces for our vulnerable students and the children of key workers. Due to potential staff shortages, we will have to limit the number of places available. These students will access Google Classroom and follow the online learning programme in the same way as those students who are at home. If you need support with this, please email <a href="mailto:info@redhill.dudley.sch.uk">info@redhill.dudley.sch.uk</a> outlining your employment role and the support you need.

For those students eligible for a free school meal, we will contact parents via a Google form so you can book a meal to be taken home on Tuesday after school.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation will be frustrating for you. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the union and the government over funding for schools and teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school or in our Trust.

The NEU has balloted for four days of industrial action. At this moment I am not able to comment on the provision for the other proposed strike days. I will communicate this with you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Clayton Headteacher

"Commitment to excellence"