

27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**RE: Industrial strike action**

I wrote to you earlier in the week regarding industrial action with the first date affected being Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

After consulting the guidelines and assessing all options available to us, we have made the decision that school will only be open to year 11 and for our most vulnerable students. These decisions have been made as we will not have the numbers of staff available to safely operate the school at full capacity or be able to offer a high-quality curriculum.

Attendance is mandatory for all year 11 and the school will be closed for year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students. We ask that year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students' use this time to study and revise content covered so far or to read an age-appropriate book. Parents of the students expected to attend will receive an additional email outlining the plan for the day.

We appreciate the inconvenience this will cause for some families, and we thank you for your continued support and understanding during this time. I'd like to emphasise that the strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and conditions in addition to the wider state of education funding, not because of any specific issues at Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy where all colleagues diligently and passionately go about their business of serving this wonderful school community. What I have learned in my very short time here so far is that the entire staff body are brilliant, and they are striking to ensure the future of education as a whole is stronger and to ensure that schools are appropriately funded so they can continue to make great strides.

Further information will be shared regarding the other dates announced for industrial action closer to the time, but it would be prudent to arrange alternative childcare for these dates in advance. The dates are:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or a member of our senior leadership team, and we would be more than happy to speak with you.

Thank you once again for your understanding,

Mr Simon Leach

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Leach', with a stylized, cursive script.

Principal  
Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy