



10 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Industrial Action Update

I am writing to you with an update on the arrangements for the industrial action by the National Education Union on 15 and 16 March 2023.

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the union and the government over teachers' pay and school funding and not because of any issues at our school. **As a result of the information I have, I am able to keep the school open to Years 12 and 13 on these days**, so please do not send your child into school on this day unless they are in these year groups. More detail regarding the provision for Years 12 and 13 will be sent out on Monday.

Remote Learning

Staff that are not striking will deliver live lessons to the rest of the school so students should log on to Microsoft Teams at the start of their lesson and join as normal. Please can all students ensure they have log in details in advance of Wednesday 15 March.

NEU members are under no obligation to inform schools whether or not they are taking industrial action. Consequently, it means that we will not know our exact staffing until the day. Staff that are striking are not required to deliver lessons or prepare work for their groups on that day. As I am unaware of which staff are striking, I am not able to inform you of which live lessons are taking place or not. Therefore, your child will need to log on to all lessons to see if their lesson is taking place.

To be able to access the live lessons students need to follow the steps below:

- On any device which allows the use of Apps, students should download the Microsoft Teams App.
- Once this is downloaded students should log in using their St Martin's email address and password, students will then be on the homepage.
- At the time the lesson should normally commence they will be notified that the teacher is now online and ready to begin.
- For devices that do not have the ability to download the Microsoft Teams App, students should search "Microsoft Teams" where a web version of the software is available.
- Students should then log in using their St Martin's email address and password.

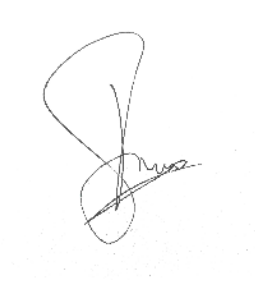
Be The Best You Can Be



- Any problems please contact Mr Berry at pberry@st-martins.essex.sch.uk

We are working closely with our staff union representative to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if there are any changes. I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child, and that they will experience some changes to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Smyrk', is centered on the page. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'I'.

Ian Smyrk
Headteacher