

24th February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to write to you all today to provide some updates for our schools in regards to the Upper School Fire in January as well as information I sent yesterday in regards to the industrial action by the NEU on Thursday 2nd March.

As you know, the damage to the front of the Upper School was quite significant following the fire 5 weeks ago and this has caused some disruption to many aspects of the administrative runnings of the school. Our staff have simply been fantastic in adapting to the challenging circumstances that we have faced and the work in cleaning, sanitising, painting and repairing immediate damage has been very quick indeed.

The fire resulted in many aspects of our administrative functionality being re-roomed but I am pleased to say that from Monday, we will have a temporary reception area at the front of the school where all visitors should report to as opposed to walking across the front of the school. This will make things a lot better for people when visiting and signing in and hopefully bring a little normality back to us. It is also important to note that we have managed to move our welfare room, general office and exams office back into their original offices - which is a little more 'business as usual for our students'.

The unfortunate thing about this is that the temporary reception will be at the front of the school by the main gates for the remainder of the academic year due to the significant amount of repair that is needed. You won't need to worry where the new temporary reception is, because when you reach the school gates, you won't be able to miss it!

I sent a short letter to you all yesterday about next week's strike action and the information included in that letter remains largely unchanged. We will be sending out the full programme for Year 11 and 13 early next week and Thursday 2nd March includes some essential exams for our students, in preparation for the summer exams which are now only a few school weeks away. School will not be open to years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12.

In regard to the Lower School, we are working to open to as many year groups as possible, but we will not be open to all year groups as we did previously due to staff not being in school. I hope to be able to write to our Lower School parents by the end of today (or by Monday morning at the latest) to say which year groups we will be open for. As soon as we have the information we need, we will let you know as soon as possible so that our families can plan accordingly.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully



R Denial
Executive Headteacher