



Whitburn Church of England Academy

An Academy with Specialist Status in Maths and Computing

Whitburn, Sunderland, SR6 7EF Principal: A Hardie M.A. (Hons) M.S.c P.G.C.E
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'Excellence for All'

24th March 2014

Industrial Action – Wednesday 26th March 2014

Dear Parent/Carer

As you may be aware, a national day of industrial action by the National Union of Teachers is planned for **Wednesday 26th March 2014**. This action is not against the Academy itself, but is part of national industrial action to changes to pay arrangements, conditions of service and pension schemes for teachers, and will include staff at Whitburn Church of England Academy.

As with previous industrial action, we have adhered to advice and guidelines provided by the Department for Education:

- To maintain the education of the children;
- To meet statutory requirements;
- To ensure the health and safety of employees and pupils (key issues: safety, appropriate supervision arrangements);
- To ensure appropriate authority and leadership.

Although the strike action will involve a significant number of our teaching staff, we intend to open fully on this day and expect all pupils to attend. The school day will run from 8.45am until 3.30pm as normal; a full breakfast, break and lunch service will be available and scholars' buses, Breakfast club and After-school club will operate as usual. Pupils will not have their normal lessons but instead will follow a collapsed timetable day. **Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 pupils must attend in normal school uniform.**

Each year group will take part in a range of activities on the day, as outlined below:

Years 7 and 9

An interactive performance of 'Macbeth' by Say Two Productions (professional theatre company), followed by project work using 'Horrible Histories'.

Year 8

Slavery project followed by an interactive performance of 'To Kill a Mocking Bird' by a Say Two Productions (professional theatre company).

Year 10

Careers and employability skills as a follow-up to Work Experience Week. Year 10 pupils will also have their opportunity to take part in the "2000 mile challenge" in support of Sport Relief.

Year 11

Intensive revision sessions on English and Maths provided by 'Learning Performance'.

Document available in large font, alternative language or audio format on request



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Year 10 pupils may attend on the day wearing their school PE Kit or suitable sportswear (i.e. jogging bottoms, t-shirt) with training shoes suitable for outdoor use to enable them to participate in the Sport Relief activity. No make-up or jewellery will be allowed. All Year 10 pupils, except for those with a valid medical reason, will take part in the activity and will have the opportunity to purchase Sport Relief wristbands for £1 from the Academy in advance of the event; they will be able to wear these for the remainder of the term. Pupils who have not purchased a Sport Relief wristband will be asked to donate £1 on the day to receive their wristband and wear non-uniform.

Please note that some after-school clubs and revision sessions will be cancelled on the evening due to staff absence. Pupils must check with the teachers concerned to find out if the activity has been cancelled.

If you have any queries relating to the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the Main Academy Office.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Hardie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

A Hardie
Principal