



Ewood Lane
Todmorden
West Yorkshire
OL14 7DG

Tel: 01706813558

www.todhigh.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

April 2023

Dear parents/carers,

As I'm sure you are aware, the NEU teachers' union have declared a period of national strike action. The next days of strike action are on Thursday the 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May. I am sorry to inform you that Todmorden High School will be closed to all students in Year 7-11 on those two days, barring some exceptions.

This is not a decision we have taken lightly but we are unable to provide adequate supervision for students with the forecasted staffing levels in school. We have consulted over this, of Todmorden High School's teaching staff well over 50% are NEU members. Heads are not permitted to ask staff if they will be in school. Consequently, we do not know how many teachers will be in school and we cannot ask other teachers to cover lessons. After long consideration, our only option is to close the school to all students except those detailed below.

We will be providing a small provision on both strike days for vulnerable students due to staffing numbers. If you feel your child fits these criteria, please email Emily Rawlinson at e.rawlinson@todhigh.co.uk.

We will also be staffing coursework catch up sessions on both strike days for those students in year 11 who are completing a Cambridge National Qualification (iMedia, Child Development, Health and Social Care, Hospitality and Catering and Sports Studies), students will be targeted for this support and a separate invitation will be sent home with further details. Students completing Cambridge National Qualifications have a deadline of 15th May to complete coursework, hence the need for this support to take place. If you have any questions about this session please contact your child's subject teacher or Learning Manager (Miss James – j.james@todhigh.co.uk).

We would like all other Todmorden High School students to use the days as a 'catch-up' day and use the time to complete online learning work on Sparx, GCSE Pod and Carousel as well as any previously set home learning tasks including making use of their knowledge organisers.

Our year 11 students should make full use of the time to continue with their preparation and revision for their summer examinations, including looking at the revision pages on our website [Revision By Subject - Todmorden High School \(todhigh.co.uk\)](http://www.todhigh.co.uk). Please complete at any homework that has been sent and remember Sparx offers unlimited maths.

If your child receives free school meals please email Sian Broadbent to arrange for a packed lunch to be made up, you will be able to call in at school to collect this meal on the strike day - s.broadbent@todhigh.co.uk.



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

THS has recently switched to using buFF paper for printing services. Our paper is 100% recycled.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child and that their education will be disrupted on those days. I know that the current situation is frustrating, and I ask that our school community continues to support each other as best we can moving forward.

We are working closely with our union representatives and staff to minimise further disruption on any strike days that are planned for the future. I will continue to keep in touch with parents, carers and students regarding this.

School will be open as normal on the other days over those two weeks, excluding the Bank Holiday Monday (1st May) where school will be closed to both staff and students.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Shirt', written in a cursive style.

Gill Shirt
Headteacher