



Ewood Lane  
Todmorden  
West Yorkshire  
OL14 7DG  
Tel: 01706813558  
[www.todhigh.co.uk](http://www.todhigh.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

January 2023

Dear parents/carers,

As I'm sure you are aware, the NEU teachers' union have declared a period of national strike action. The first day of strike action is on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. The strike action is in response to the dispute between unions and the government over the teachers' pay award being below current rates of inflation and not because of any specific issues at Todmorden High School. We appreciate that this is the case in most professions at the moment, but this is seen as an opportunity for the teaching unions to join colleagues across the public sector to take action to improve the situation.

I am sorry to inform you that Todmorden High School will be closed to all students on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. 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.

However, we have made sure that we have appropriate staffing to supervise the mock examinations scheduled for that day and parents of the students sitting that exam will be contacted individually with the arrangements. We will also be providing a small provision for vulnerable students due to staffing numbers, if you feel your child fits this criteria please email Emily Rawlinson at [e.rawlinson@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:e.rawlinson@todhigh.co.uk). 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](mailto:s.broadbent@todhigh.co.uk). Additionally Mrs Mansfield will also be running an hour long workshop for her Child Development students in preparation for their exam, those students will be contacted individually regarding the timings of this workshop.

We would like Todmorden High School students to use the day 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. 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).

We are working closely with our union representatives and staff to minimise further disruption on the remaining strike days, and I will keep you up to date with the situation as it develops.



**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 at short notice and that their education will be disrupted on that day. 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. I will continue to keep in touch with parents, carers and students regarding any other upcoming strike days. School will be open as normal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February, there is an external Child Development exam on that day.

Yours sincerely,

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

Gill Shirt  
Headteacher