

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

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Headteacher
Mr E McGlinchey BSc (Hons) NPQH & NPQEL

Our ref: PF/EM/03/23

8th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parents of Year 11 – Industrial Action Day, Wednesday March 15th 2023

I wanted to write to you to update you on the plans for your children in Year 11 when they come into school on the teachers strike day on Wednesday 15th March 2023.

As you will be aware, I have prioritised Year 11 during the strikes as much as possible by providing them with an additional day in school over the other four year groups. We have also made the decision to make a significant financial investment into the activities on the 15th March for Year 11 so we do expect 100% attendance on the day.

On the day, Year 11 will be provided with the opportunity of a unique experience in school that will be facilitated by external visitors that we have invited to come into school and work with our Year 11s. The day will begin with a whole year assembly in the theatre where our visitors will talk to Year 11 about the following important topics:

- Time Management
- Managing Coursework
- Exam & Learning Skills
- Revision Techniques
- Memory Skills
- Kicking Stress
- Getting Motivated
- What is Success?
- Believing in Yourself
- Goals & Aspirations

After the assembly which is during period 1, pupils will then break out into '**workshops**' of smaller groups to work with our visitors on a more bespoke basis. The 'workshop' groups will be organised in form tutor groups.

When pupils are **not** in a workshop activity, they will either:

- (a) Go to their normal timetabled lesson if their teacher is present in school during periods 2, 3 and 4 (there will be a number of teaching staff in school on the day)
- or**
- (b) Attend the school sportshall where they will do self-study in silence

One family... inspired to learn.'

SEAL *it with* RESPECT

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With regards to self-study in the sports hall, it is **essential** that Year 11 arrive, well prepared on the day with revision and study materials of a sufficient amount which will cover TWO hours of study.

As of the 15th March, there will then only be **30 school days left until Year 11 start their GCSE examinations** so it is naturally expected that every Year 11 brings plenty of revision with them on the day and prepares this in advance. Each pupil is studying at least nine subjects so this should not be a problem.

Year 11 will then be able to leave school early at 1.25pm or if they wish to remain in school to have lunch, they may do so. There will be an extended menu available at breaktime for pupils to have something more substantial to eat at that time. Unfortunately, we will not be able to amend bus times on this day so pupils and parents are advised to plan appropriate arrangements for an earlier finish.

As stated earlier, we do expect 100% attendance to this event in the final build up to the GCSE examinations and we look forward to welcoming pupils who are prepared with revision materials and a plan for self-study when they are not working with our external visitors.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. McGlinchey', with a small horizontal line at the end.

Mr Ed McGlinchey
Headteacher