

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: UCU Industrial Action on March 15th and 16th 2023

I am writing to you further to the message I sent earlier this week warning of possible disruption to College activities from the industrial action by members of UCU (the University and College Union).

It is with regret, that I am writing to inform you that we will not be able to run the classes for your young person's course on March 15th and 16th and therefore they are not able to attend College on those days.

In reaching this very difficult decision, we have had to risk assess for whether we could guarantee being able to run your young person's provision safely and effectively, and we have concluded that we cannot. As UCU members do not have to tell us they are striking, we have no way of knowing in advance of March 15th and 16th which teachers and learning support assistants will not be attending College in your young person's curriculum area and how many in total will be absent across the college as a whole.

We know that the **Inclusive Learning, ESOL (16-19) and 14-16** provisions we run successfully here is built upon the detailed knowledge of our staff of your young person's needs. The great relationships they have are integral to making your young person feel well supported and safe at college. As we are unable to guarantee that staff with this knowledge and relationship with your young person will be attending work on March 15th and 16th, we do not feel we can guarantee to provide the support your young person needs and deserves.

I recognise that it is the right of UCU members to take industrial action and we share their desire that greater levels of funding be provided to Colleges from the Government. However, the funding is not available presently to meet the UCU claims and therefore I am sorry that we have not been able to avoid this strike impacting on your young person and you and your family.

Yours faithfully



Jerry White

Principal