

22.01.25

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Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may know, the local branch of the National Education Union (NEU) is continuing to take industrial action, and I would like to update you on the current situation. A key focus of a school's Local Governing Body (LGB) is raising aspirations and ensuring high standards of education for all learners. As Chair, and on behalf of the LGB, we are assured that the school leadership team is continuing to do everything to maintain this focus.

Although negotiations are still underway, the union nevertheless intends to take further strike action on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week (January 27, 28 and 29). Please be assured we remain committed to resolving this dispute as quickly and amicably as possible and are being assisted in this by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS). The next negotiation meeting is due to take place on Friday.

We owe obligations of confidentiality to everyone here, be they learners, staff or parents, and for that reason we will never do or say anything that would risk breaching those important responsibilities. That means we are very limited on what we can say publicly about employment matters.

I am very sorry to note that the school's position has so often been seriously misrepresented on social media, and can only reiterate that if you have any specific concerns or questions regarding any aspect of your child's education, please do come and talk to the school about it so that we can put your mind at rest.

In the meantime, we are doing everything we can to ensure your child's education is unaffected by the industrial action. Attendance remains high and standards of behaviour across the school have been exemplary. I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school during this challenging period. It is greatly appreciated.

In line with our school values of Believe, Achieve and Succeed, our focus continues to be broadening horizons and shaping positive futures for our learners. Please continue to follow the positive news stories on our social media [CHS Facebook](#) and 'X' (Twitter) @Cottingham\_High that showcase our learners' talents and achievements.

We will continue to keep you informed of any further developments and hope to resolve the current issues as soon as practicable.



Vince Tennison

Chair of Local Governing Body