

MAn/KBa

22nd November 2011



Headteacher: Mark Anstiss

Dear Parent / Carer

Potential Industrial Action - Wednesday 30th November 2011

Following national media coverage, I am sure that you will be aware that there is a significant chance of industrial (strike) action impacting on schools in England and Wales on Wednesday 30th November 2011.

A number of professional associations (teaching and non-teaching) have balloted members regarding strike action. This action is not against Felpham Community College itself but is part of national industrial action organised by these trades unions about changes to the pension schemes of their members. There is no requirement on unions to inform us in advance about which members of staff will take action.

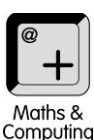
Neither the Governing Body nor the Headteacher is legally allowed to close the school 'in sympathy' with the strike and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the safety of our students. The school will only close if, in my opinion, it is not safe to remain open.

As yet, I have made no decision as to whether or not the intended action will lead to school closure. My duty is to liaise with the Governing Body and relevant professional associations in order to make an informed decision. However, I believe it is prudent to keep you 'in the loop' as far as possible. Because we may not know until quite late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to close may have to be taken with little notice.

Naturally, I will contact you as soon as a decision is made; in the meantime, we must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mark Anstiss
Headteacher



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