



A Specialist School in Science and Performing Arts

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**Headteacher** Simon Duffy

27 June 2011

Dear Parents

**Re: Industrial Action and School Closure Thursday 30 June 2011**

As you may well be aware, two of the teacher unions (the NUT and the ATL) are taking industrial action in the form of a strike on Thursday 30 June 2011. This is part of national industrial action organised by these trades unions about changes to the pension schemes of their members.

Despite there being no requirement on unions to inform us which members of staff will take action, I have been told today that there will be at least 20 teachers who will be striking on Thursday 30 June.

Neither the governing body nor the Headteacher is legally allowed to close the school 'in sympathy' with any strike and would never do so. However, our main concern is the well-being of our students. I have completed a full assessment of the impact of such a reduction in staff and this has shown that it would not be safe to remain open. As a result Chipping Norton School will be **closed to students in Years 7-11 on Thursday 30 June**. I was not able to get this information earlier and I apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Students in Year 12 should come in as normal and report to the Sixth Form Block where they will be registered. Year 12 students should attend their usual lessons and if a teacher is not present due to industrial action they should do private study. Unfortunately as I am not fully aware of the names of the teachers taking action we cannot predict how many 'A' level lessons will be affected. School will be open as normal on Friday 1 July, which is also our Sports Day in the afternoon.

If there is a change to the situation and the NUT and ATL call off the industrial action I will inform parents and students immediately. In that circumstance school would be open as normal.

Yours sincerely

Simon Duffy  
Headteacher



