4 July, 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: NUT & UNISON STRIKE ACTION – THURSDAY 10TH JULY 2014**

As you are probably aware, we have been informed by the NUT & Unison unions that their members will be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on Thursday 10th July 2014.

This action is not against Helsby High School itself but is part of national industrial action organised by these trade unions.

Neither the Governing Body nor the Headteacher is legally allowed to close the school “in sympathy” with the strike. However, we have to act in line with the advice provided to the school and assess the health and safety risks of remaining open as usual.

This assessment has been carried out by the school and a decision has been made that the school will remain open for all students. Indications are that a small number of teachers and support staff will be on strike and we have looked at the implications carefully.

While most lessons will run as normal there will be times when some classes may be combined and supervised by senior leaders. At this stage they may be watching some educational videos. I know you will agree that this is not ideal and some students will be more affected than others. However, it will allow all students to remain in school and many to have most lessons as normal.

I am confident that you will recognise that we are doing all we can to ensure that students’ learning suffers minimal disruption and that you will support us by ensuring that your son / daughter works as well as they do on all other school days.

We have done all we can to come to a decision as soon as possible to allow families to be clear about what the arrangements are.

We must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continuing help and support.

Yours sincerely

J Dowler
Headteacher

B Ratcliffe (Mrs)
Chair of Governors