

20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear families,

**Strike action by the National Education Union (NEU)**

The NEU, the largest teachers' union, has announced its members will strike on Wednesday, 1 February, along with other unions representing train drivers and government employees in various sectors.

These national strikes will have a big impact on schools and many other services on that day. The government has told all schools that it expects them to do everything they can to stay open. There are also strikes planned by the NEU for Thursday, 2 March, Wednesday, 15 March and Thursday, 16 March.

We have sympathy with our teachers and the incredible job they do and know that no-one wants to take strike action. We are required to follow Department for Education (DfE) guidance and put plans in place to provide education for as many children as possible when the strikes take place.

We will not know until closer to the date of the action how many staff we will have in the school. Depending on the level of staffing, which will be key, we will have the following options:

- partially open the school for some classes / year groups, vulnerable children and the children of critical workers, or
- only be able to open a 'Hub' at the school, as we did during coronavirus, for just vulnerable children and the children of critical workers.

Where children will not be able to attend school we will upload work for them onto our home learning platforms.

We know the strike will inconvenience our families and that you will want to know, as far in advance as possible, exactly what you will need to do.

I will be working with the Headteacher of your school to provide more information to you again next week, as the staffing situation becomes clearer. You will then know whether to send your children to school or to keep them at home with the work set for them.

We will also make arrangements next week for parents to advise us if they want to apply for a critical worker place for their child.

Yours faithfully,



Marino Charalambous  
Chief Executive Officer