

Friday 27 January 2023

Dear families,

**Strike action by the National Education Union (NEU) – arrangements for Wednesday.**

We wrote to you last week about the national schools' strike planned by the NEU, the largest teachers' union, for Wednesday, 1 February and said we would update you as soon as we were able to.

While we have sympathy with the reasons behind teachers across the country taking action, we are required to follow Department for Education (DfE) guidance on what to do when this happens. This means we have to put plans in place to provide education for as many children as possible when strikes take place. All schools are in the same situation.

**Plan for Wednesday - Children who must come into school**

As we previously explained, the level of staffing that we will have in the school determines what teaching we can provide on the day, whether the school can open and how many pupils we can teach. There are also clear legal requirements covering the health and safety of the children.

Following a meeting on Friday morning to assess the situation for next week, taking into account the likely staff numbers that we will have in the school, we have put the following plan in place:

**The school will be open from 9.45am but only as a 'hub' for:**

- All Year 11 students
- Vulnerable children in Years 7-10 (the school will contact these parents separately)
- Children with an EHCP
- The children from families who are classified as 'critical workers' in the following jobs: Police, doctors, nurses, paramedics, and teachers who are working. **You must complete a short form in advance to inform us if your child is attending by clicking this link:**  
<https://forms.office.com/e/MuHg8FbK8T>

**All Year 11 students must come to school in their uniforms.**

**All students in Years 7-10, who are eligible to attend, will need to come into school in their PE kits.**

All students will be able to get a hot meal at lunchtime, where they usually have one, or should bring in their packed lunch as usual.

The school day will start at 9.45am and then end at the normal time.

Please note that we will, unfortunately, not be able to provide Breakfast Club or any after school clubs on Wednesday.

**Plan for Wednesday - Children who will need to stay at home**

Unfortunately, due to the numbers of staff taking strike action, most children will not be able to attend school. This means we have put the following learning plan in place for your child:

All students who will not be attending school must log into Google Classroom. Students must join the classroom using the classroom code which will sent to them via email as well as text messages to parents. We will send out details on how to log into the Google classroom before Wednesday. There will be work uploaded for students to complete. We strongly encourage you to see that your child completes their work and that they treat Wednesday, as far as possible, as a day of learning.

**Free school meal families for children who will need to stay at home:**

We will provide a packed lunch if you choose to collect it. This will be available for collection from the main hall at 11am on Wednesday.

We are sorry for the disruption that will inevitably take place on Wednesday and the further currently planned actions in the weeks ahead. I know that everyone hopes the dispute will be resolved as soon as possible.

If you have any questions in regards to this, please contact the school office for further guidance.



Mr Arthur Barzey  
Headteacher