

NEU Strike Action 1st February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware, the National Education Union has announced that its members voted overwhelmingly for strike action in a recent ballot. The NEU balloted for industrial action as a result of real term cuts in teacher pay and funding for schools that is putting the education sector under enormous pressure at a time when demands are never greater. As a school, we recognise the challenges that the NEU are highlighting through this action. No teacher wants to disrupt the education of a child, but this action is about protecting the future of education by ensuring teacher retention and appropriate funding levels for schools.

As far as we are aware, we have relatively few NEU members in school meaning that we will be able to open fully to all students; however, there will be disruption to the curriculum during the day due to absent colleagues.

Our planning is in line with government guidance ([Handling Strike Action in Schools – January 2023](#)) as well as guidance issued to other teaching unions for their members. We have also completed a risk assessment. Arrangements are as follows:

- Students arrive at school as usual and go to registration for 8.40am.
- We may need to extend registration if we have any unexpected staff absence.
- Upon arrival to registration, if a child's form tutor is on strike there will be a sign on the door explaining where they need to go for registration.
- The school day will run as normal, but where a child has a lesson with a member of staff who is on strike, they will either be supervised in that classroom or there will be a sign directing students where to go. We will need to combine several classes at different points during the day.
- The school day will finish as usual at 3pm, but there may be disruption to after school activities if any are run by NEU members.

In lessons where a member of staff is absent due to the strike action, the normal curriculum will be suspended and alternative activities will be provided and supervised by members of the senior leadership team and supply/cover staff. In lesson support for students with SEN and intervention programmes will operate as normal. **Please can Year 11 students bring in suitable revision materials for the upcoming mocks to use if they are affected.**

A significant number of students will be affected at some point during the day. We will do our best to ensure that the activities provided are purposeful and engaging for students.

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We expect to operate in the same manner during the future NEU action scheduled for 28th February and 15th & 16th March 2023.

This information is correct at the time of writing, but may be subject to change. Please do get in touch if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Heath', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Jonathan Heath
Headteacher