

Friday 27th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Further to the letter sent last week regarding the announcement made by the National Education Union (NEU) that its members have voted to take strike action, we are now in a position to share with you details of the provision we are able to provide. This industrial action is scheduled to take place on the following days:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The provision that will be offered may differ across each of the four days, but this is subject to change depending on the actual impact on our school, which cannot be precisely predicted and could alter over time. Please find details relating to Wednesday 1st February 2023 and we will notify you of any changes to these arrangements for any future strike action.

Please carefully read the information below to ensure you are aware of the provision which will be available to your child:

On Wednesday 1st February 2023, onsite provision will be available for those children who are classed as vulnerable students only, as detailed below, and we will be contacting those families directly on an individual basis on Monday 30th January. All other students across Year 7 to 13 should not attend school, unless they are contacted by the school. Students will be able to access remote work as detailed overleaf.

### **Vulnerable students**

Vulnerable children include children who are supported by social care, those with safeguarding and welfare needs, including child in need plans, on child protection plans, 'looked after' children, young carers, disabled children and those with education, health and care (EHC) plans will be expected to attend school as normal. Students will participate in small group work & personal development sessions. Please click the link for more information on the criteria for vulnerable children.

For all vulnerable students any non-attendance will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Our usual first day response to absence will be applied, such as contact with parents and home visits where appropriate, in keeping with our usual policies.



## Arrangements / timings of the day for vulnerable students

The school will be open from 8.15am and all students who are expected to attend must be on-site for 8:25am as usual. Breakfast will be provided, as usual, in the Jamieson Restaurant and registers will be completed there before transferring to classrooms for the day. The school day will end at the usual time of 2.45pm, with public bus services running as normal.

Students are to enter, as usual, through the Walton Village Student Entrance and are required to wear their normal uniform at all times. Our usual high standards and expectations as detailed in our behaviour policy remain in place to ensure we maintain a safe environment for our students and staff.

## Lunch arrangements for those attending school on Wednesday 1st February

Lunch provision will be available in the Jamieson Restaurant for all vulnerable students in attendance on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

# Free School Meals for those not attending school on Wednesday 1st February

If your child receives free school meals and is not expected to attend school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, please be assured that a meal will be provided and your child will be able to collect a packed lunch at the end of the day on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January from the Jamieson Restaurant as they exit school. Please complete this <u>form</u> to inform the school if you would like a meal provided for your child.

#### On-line education

Students who are not expected to attend school will be able to access on-line work using any digital device including desktop PC, laptop, tablet, game console or mobile phone with data access. The links to work for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February will be uploaded onto Class Charts and Teams on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. If your child does not have access to a digital device, please email your child's Head of Year or call school on 0151 235 1200 by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January so paper copies can be collated and shared on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.

## **Further information**

On the industrial strike day(s) there will be a core body of staff supervising the school as follows:

- Headteacher, Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers
- Key senior leaders on a rota basis
- Designated safeguarding professionals and attendance officers, monitoring daily attendance of those students that are expected to attend.
- Administrative staff, ensuring switchboards are staffed and able to respond to enquiries.
- A core of staff delivering a programme of activities on a rota basis.
- Catering and cleaning teams.

Finally, in order to effectively safeguard those students who are expected to attend the school on this day, we politely ask that parents inform us by 8.00am if their child is unable to attend on that day. This absence should be communicated by calling our normal student absence line.

If you have any concerns about the safeguarding or welfare of a child/family during the industrial strike day, please contact the school office directly on **0151 235 1200**.

We will write to you again before the next proposed day of industrial action to outline the arrangements, so please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any questions or queries about this communication.

We thank you for your understanding and co-operation during this time.

Yours faithfully,

Christian Wilcocks

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Paul Masher

Headteacher