

www.burscoughprioryacademy.org Headteacher Mrs L MacLaren

Ref: 3412 LMA

30 June 2023

Strike Action by Members of the National Education Union (NEU) 5 & 7 July 2023

Dear Parent,

We would like to give you an update about the school's plans for Wednesday 5 and Friday 7 July, the next in the series of planned industrial action by the NEU.

Due to the high number of staff that are in the NEU, there will be major disruption to our school provision on this day. We have completed a detailed risk assessment considering the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of our children, staff and visitors. It is important to reiterate that this is not industrial action against the school, it is as part of a schedule of national action - the strike is because the NEU has a dispute with the Secretary of State for Education.

As a result of this assessment, we will offer provision to cater for:

Wednesday 5 July

- 1. Year 7. All students are expected to attend at 8.45am. Year 7 will be taught by their subject teachers if they are in school. In March, long before the dates for the industrial action were set, we made plans to welcome some visitors from SEED Lancashire to work with Year 7 students about social media, self-esteem and body image. If we combine the numbers of staff we anticipate will be in school and our visitors, we can make provision for the year group. If we were not supported by SEED, it is unlikely that we would be able to cater for Year 7. Students will be supervised at all times.
- 2. The individual needs of a small number of children in Year 8 particularly. If your child is in this group, like last time, you will receive an email with an invite into school and a link to an online form to register to confirm that your child is accepting or declining the offered place. This means everyone is accounted for and we know exactly who we will expect to attend, at 8.45am.
- Based on the assessment of the intentions of the staff in school, *this means that for all other students in Year 8, 9* & 10, school will be closed on Wednesday 5 July and their homework will be their priority for the day.



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Friday 7 July

We anticipate that our plan for Friday is as outlined here. However, following a review on Wednesday, we will confirm this on Thursday 6 July.

- 1. The West Lancashire District Athletics Championships will take place on Friday and students from across the year groups have been selected to represent the school (and have received the information about the details of the event). This will mean that a number of students will come to school in order to participate in this event at Robin Park in Wigan. Students will be accompanied and supervised by school staff.
- 2. *The individual needs of a small number of children in Year 7 and 8 particularly*. If your child is in this group, like last time, you will receive an email with an invite into school and a link to an online form to register to confirm that your child is accepting or declining the offered place. This means everyone is accounted for and we know exactly who we will expect to attend, at 8.45am.
- Based on the assessment of the intentions of the staff in school, *this means that for all other students in Year 7, 8,* 9 & 10, school will be closed on Friday 7 July and their homework will be their priority for the day.

Free School Meals

Students who are eligible for free school meals (who are not in school) will have the opportunity to order one for Wednesday and Friday lunchtime - this must be pre ordered in advance and collected from school on both days 12.30pm. Please see the email that follows with a personalised link to complete an order for lunch.

Remote Learning

In line with the guidance from the Department for Education, the curriculum will be paused for students in Year 7, 8, 9 & 10 and resume on Monday 10 July. Homework and independent study are the priority for our students. They should be directed to the work recorded on ClassCharts; the purpose of the work is so that they can practise and embed knowledge and skills in these subjects:

Year 7, 8 & 9		Year 10	
1.	Homework set on ClassCharts	1.	Work or Homework set on ClassCharts
2.	Read & Watch lists for other subjects	2.	Personalised revision
3.	Reading for pleasure	3.	Read & Watch lists for other subjects
		4.	Reading for pleasure



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Every school in the country, not least in our Trust, is in a completely unique position. Our plan is specific to the circumstances we risk assessed today, 30.6.23. We hope that talks will continue between the trade union and the representatives of the Secretary of State in the coming days and should there be any update or change, we will confirm this in writing.

On the other days of the week, aside from that noted above, other students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 are expected to be in school for the rest of the week; attendance is mandatory. Following the industrial action, all students should return to school on Monday 10 July at 8.45am, prepared for a normal working day. Thank you for your understanding and your respectful communication about all of the arrangements that are outlined – your support is invaluable. If you have any questions, please do hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours faithfully,

L MacLaren

Headteacher



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enquiries@burscoughprioryacademy.org
Trevor Road, Burscough, Lancashire, L40 7RZ