

21 April 2023

Fylde Coast Academy Trust Mereside Primary Academy Langdale Road, Blackpool Lancashire, FY4 4RR

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NEU continued industrial action 27 April and 2 May 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

The industrial dispute between Gillian Keegan, Education Secretary and the NEU has yet to be resolved. Before Easter the revised offer to teachers was uniformly rejected by the NEU and the three other large unions, NAHT, NASUWT and ASCL.

As a result, the NEU has announced two further days of action on 27 April and 2 May. On 18 May the NEU will potentially announce three further days of action in June or July unless a negotiated settlement is reached before this date. The NEU has said it will work to avoid disruption to year 11 and 13 pupils only on the days where strike action is planned.

It is possible that other unions will ballot their members for strike action as a result of their memberships' rejecting the latest offer on pay and revised terms and conditions linked to workload. We will update you with any developments if the situation changes.

In the meantime, we will do our best to minimise the disruption and support all pupils who are working towards external tests and examinations during the Summer term.

The impact of the planned industrial action will mean Garstang Community Academy will;

• be open for Year 11 on Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May.

Thursday 27 April will be a vital date for many Year 11 students and their attendance is crucial. There will be students involved in a GCSE Art examination, which will make a fundamental contribution to their final GCSE grade. GCSE PE students will be involved in a practical moderation event. This will involve external moderators assessing the reliability of the grade's students have been awarded.

Pupils entitled to free school meals can pick up a packed lunch on Wednesday 26 and Friday 28 April as on the 1 May schools will be closed for the Bank Holiday. Vulnerable students will be able to attend school on both days in keeping with the arrangements in place from previous strike days.

Pupils working at home on either day will be provided with suitable work to complete at home during the day.

I apologise for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience and understanding whilst NEU members remain in dispute with the Secretary of State for Education.

Yours faithfully

