



St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

Prepare the way of the Lord

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10 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Following my letter on 15 February 2023 regarding strike action by the NEU, I now have further information on the next proposed strike days on **Wednesday 15 March** and **Thursday 16 March 2023**.

Just as a reminder, I have been tasked by the Department for Education to do everything that I can to ensure the continuity of educational provision in our school by keeping the school open on these strike days; providing adequate health and safety for all staff and pupils is the key judgement I have been asked to make.

I can confirm that our risk assessment concludes the school will again be fully open for all year groups on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2023. It is important to point out that this is not industrial action against the school, it is part of a national action and is because the NEU states that it has a “trade dispute with the Secretary of State for Education as a result of the failure to give an undertaking to make available additional and sufficient funds to allow employers to pay a fully funded increase in the pay of teachers”. As we found with the last strike days, there will inevitably be some disruption to the school day. Some classes will not have their usual classroom teacher or be taught in their usual classroom. Pupils may not be taught lessons according to the scheme of work, but work will be provided to every class.

It would be very helpful if your child had an appropriate reading book in their bag on these days.

I would just like to thank you for your continued support, it is always greatly appreciated. Please remember that if you or your child are struggling with any aspect of school life, do not hesitate to get in touch with us and we will do our very best to help.

Yours faithfully

M J DUMICAN
Headteacher