Friday 24th February 2023



Dear Parent,Headteacher: Mr. S. Day

Strike action by members of the National Education Union (NEU)

I am writing to remind you about the further proposed NEU strike action. There are two national days and one regional strike day planned. The strike days that are likely to affect schools in this area are:

- Tuesday 28 February 2023 (regional)
- Wednesday 15 March 2023 (national)
- Thursday 16 March 2023 (national)

The NEU has posted a document for parents, carers and grandparents that explains their reasons for taking strike action. It can be found at https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view if you wish to read it.

How will strike action affect us at Tarleton Academy

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. This means that those teachers involved in the action will not teach their class(es) or undertake any other duties on a strike day.

It is incumbent upon a school to consider the impact that industrial action will have on the operation of the school. One of the key issues is to assess whether there are sufficient staff available for the school to remain open or partially open, during a strike.

To determine whether this school can remain fully or partially open, a detailed risk assessment has been completed. This considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of our children, staff and visitors and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum.

Every school in the country, not least in our Trust, is in a completely unique position because of the number of staff who are in the NEU or other professional associations. This means that the number of staff who have been called upon to take industrial action varies significantly between schools; every school will have to assess and manage their own particular circumstances. Equally, this may also change from the first date to the final dates – there is





Headteacher: Mr. S. Day

no assumption from school that the arrangements that we made for 1^{st} February 2023 will be the same for the proposed action next week or in March. We will review our risk assessments and confirm our actions in writing, in advance of each of the strike days.

What does this mean for next week?

Due to the number of staff that we anticipate will strike in school, there will be major disruption to our school provision on this day.

Our intention is to once again open the school in a limited capacity to our **Year 11 students** only, on **Tuesday 28th February** next week. We will also be offering an in-school provision for the specific needs of some of our students and we will contact their parents directly. For those students who will not be in school next Tuesday who are in receipt of free school meals, we will ensure that a meal is provided and will be in touch with more details.

Finally, a national strike by teachers is very unusual and taking strike action is not something that anyone in the profession undertakes lightly. In line with their colleagues in the public sector, those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and they will lose pay as a result. But as ever, thank you for your patience and understanding.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us on enquiries@tarletonacademy.org

Yours faithfully,

Mr S Day

Headteacher

