

Headteacher Ms A. Fowler

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## **STRIKE ACTION BY TEACHERS – Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023**

Dear Parents / Carers,

As you already know, ballots have been carried out by a number of teachers' trade unions to determine whether their members agree to take strike action, following a dispute which has arisen between the unions and the government about teachers' pay. This has not arisen due to any issues at the school. The outcome of the ballots has been announced, and only the members of the NEU have voted to take strike action at this stage. Other unions who balloted did not meet the required thresholds.

**The NEU have announced they will be striking next week for 2 days, on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July 2023**

It is our intention to keep school as open as we possibly can on these days and we will take all reasonable steps to ensure that this is the case. However, in doing so, I must ensure that we are able to meet health and safety requirements for pupils and staff who do not wish to strike. As a result, we have started the process of planning for the strikes and considering whether the school may close or partially close on those days.

I would like to update you now on the arrangements for The Kingsway School, which are in line with DfE guidance to headteachers and other schools in our multi-academy trust. These arrangements take into account the school's capacity to operate safely on the days with a reduced number of staff. They also allow the school to follow the DfE advice in providing an amended timetable for students on these days.

	Wednesday 5th July	Friday 7th July
Year 7 Students	Normal Lessons p1-5 Reward trip out of school for students	At home
Year 8 Students	Arrive to school for 10am Normal lessons p2-5 Reward trip out of school for students	At home
Year 9 Students	At home	Normal lessons p1 -5 Reward trip out of school for students
Year 10 Students	At home	Normal lessons p1-4 Depart school 2pm
	Taster Day at Loreto college 49 students Coach departs 9am returns 3pm	

- We have prioritised year groups in school to ensure that we can honour reward trips.
- We said that we would rota other year groups to minimise impact on learning where possible. Students in these year groups will follow their normal timetable where possible, though we may need to adapt with individual classes where a teacher is striking.
- Students working from home will be provided with work. School will provide parents with a link to the national bank of resources to support remote learning, provided by the Oak Academy.
- Vulnerable children will receive a telephone call from their Pastoral Head of Year prior to the days, inviting them to attend school if they wish to do so. They will follow a specially adapted timetable for the days and may be taught together as one group. The definition of a vulnerable child is: any child with an EHCP [ Educational Health and Care Plan ]; any child with an allocated Social Worker, and any child who is looked after (ie fostered, in care ).
- If your child is not in school and you are normally in receipt of free school meals, we will provide a meal if you request it. This will be at a designated time for collection at our Broadway campus. If you would like your child to receive the free school meal, please send an email to [office@kingsway.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:office@kingsway.stockport.sch.uk) or telephone your child's Pastoral Head of Year. The email should state the name of your child(ren).

If these arrangements change in any way between now and the strike days, I will contact you via Classcharts as soon as practicable.

We appreciate the need for you to be updated at an early stage so that you can make alternative arrangements if your child is unable to attend school. Planning does take some time as rules relating to industrial action mean that we are unable to accurately identify the exact number of staff that are likely to engage in strike action. We realise that this may cause you disruption, for which we apologise. We will continue to work with our union colleagues as the situation develops.

Yours sincerely,



Ms A Fowler  
Headteacher