

Friday 27th January 2023

Strike action by the National Education Union (NEU) - arrangements for Wednesday 1st February 2023.

Dear families,

We wrote to you last week about the national schools' strike planned by the NEU, the largest teachers' union, for Wednesday, 1 February and said we would update you as soon as we were able to.

While we have sympathy with the reasons behind teachers across the country taking action, we are required to follow Department for Education (DfE) guidance on what to do when this happens. This means we have to put plans in place to provide education for as many children as possible when strikes take place. All schools are in the same situation.

Plan for Wednesday – Children who must come into school.

As we previously explained, the level of staffing that we will have in the school determines what teaching we can provide on the day, whether the school can open and how many pupils we can teach. There are also clear legal requirements covering the health and safety of the children.

Following a meeting this morning to assess the situation for next week, taking into account the likely staff numbers that we will have in the school, we have put the following plan in place:

The school will **only** be open as a '**hub**' for:

- Vulnerable children (the school will contact these parents individually).
- Children with an ECHP.
- The children from families who are classified as 'critical workers' in the following jobs: Police, doctors, nurses, paramedics, and teachers who are working. (On the day of the strike you will need to show your work ID to prove you are a critical worker). You do not need to tell us in advance that you will need a school hub place.

School HUB:

- All children will need to come into school in their PE kits.
- Normal times for the school day will apply.
- Children will come into school through the office area and into the School Hall.
- Hub children will be given a hot meal at lunchtime or should bring in their packed lunch as usual.
- Please note that we will, unfortunately, not be able to provide Breakfast Club or any After School Care and clubs on Wednesday.

Plan for Wednesday - Children who will need to stay at home

Unfortunately, due to the numbers of staff taking strike action, most children will not be able to attend school. The NEU has also advised its union members not to prepare work in advance for the children to do at home online. This means that we have put the following plan in place for your child:

Learning:

- Teachers who are not striking will upload work to DB Primary. We strongly encourage you to see that your child completes their work. As we will not know for sure which teachers are in, to set the online learning work, we will need to ask you and your child to log on to check this on Wednesday morning.
- Where online learning has not been uploaded, children can go to the free online learning resource, Oak National Academy. A link will take them to the subjects' page, and they can then select learning appropriate to their year group. The link to use is [here](#).
- We would also encourage your child to do some reading and to practise times tables and spellings.

Free school meal families:

For those families who receive free school meals, we will provide a packed lunch, if you choose to collect it. This will be available from the school office on Wednesday between 11:30am and 12:30pm.

We are sorry for the disruption that will inevitably take place on Wednesday and the further currently planned actions in the weeks ahead. I know that everyone hopes the dispute will be resolved as soon as possible.

If you have any questions in regards to this, please contact the school office for further guidance.

Kind Regards,

G.Vincent
Headteacher