



DARRICK WOOD SCHOOL

RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | HONESTY

Thursday, 26th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to my communication on 18th January, I write to confirm our arrangements for Wednesday, 1st February, when there is strike action planned by teacher members of the National Education Union.

Having assessed the impact of the strike action on the School and after careful consideration I have decided that we will need to restrict attendance at school on that day to specific year groups as specified below:

Year	Provision on Wednesday, 1st February 2023
7	Must remain at home. Home learning will be provided.
8	Must remain at home. Home learning will be provided.
9	Must remain at home. Home learning will be provided.
10	Must remain at home. Home learning will be provided.
11	Must attend school all day as usual.
12	Must remain at home. Home learning will be provided.
13	Must attend school all day as usual.

In addition to the above, we will also be contacting parents/carers of students who meet specific criteria for priority places in school on such occasions (e.g. those with an Education, Health and Care Plan). We will be in touch directly with these parents/carers with further details on the provision we are planning to make available on site. Students who attend as part of this group will access the same work as those working at home, but on computers at school and with additional support where we are able to provide it.

To inform the decision to restrict attendance on the School site, we have had to consider many factors including the safety of students, the number of teaching staff we understand to be NEU members, the likely intentions of these members on Wednesday, 1st February, the potential for absence due to ill health, childcare etc, and the number of school staff who will be available to cover lessons. We have also taken into account guidance issued by the Department for Education in relation to strike action in schools by prioritising examination year groups and specific groups of students.

For students that usually receive a Free School Meal, but who are not able to attend due to the plans outlined above, we plan to provide an e-voucher to their parents/carers which can be used to support meal provision.

Home learning will be set as far as possible in line with our Home Learning procedures as outlined here. Students at home must access Teams and their school email throughout normal school hours, ensuring they have logged in by 9am. Work will generally be set in line with their usual timetable and staff who are available to do so will use Teams, many of them for "live teaching". However, where this is not possible, students should access the resources available through the Oak National Academy and other online resources related to the subjects they are studying that day.

You will be aware that other dates have been identified for further strike action. These are set out below. I will update you nearer the time with arrangements for these.

- Thursday, 2nd March 2023
- Wednesday, 15th March 2023
- Thursday, 16th March 2023

I appreciate that this situation will be challenging for families, but please be aware that the strike action is as a result of a national dispute between the NEU and the Secretary of State for Education.

Yours sincerely

Dr M J Airey

Head Teacher