

27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the National Education Union (NEU), one of the main teaching trade unions. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

There are three national and one regional day strikes planned. The strike days that are likely to affect schools in this area are:

- Wednesday 1 February 2023
- Wednesday 1 March 2023
- Wednesday 15 March 2023
- Thursday 16 March 2023

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 The King's CE School?**

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 therefore incumbent upon me 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 conducted. This considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of students, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

The Governing Board and I have decided the school will be open only to certain groups of students and **arrangements for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 will be as follows:**

- Year 7, Year 11 and Year 13 students will be able to attend school but learning activities may differ from their usual timetables.
- Other year groups students will not be attending school but will be undertaking remote learning activities (further details to follow)
- A small number of students identified by the school in Yr 8, 9 and 10 will be asked to attend school on that day (parents/carers will receive a separate notification for this should it apply to their child)
- After school activities including sports events will not take place on that day
- Students normally receiving free school meals but not in attendance that day will be able to collect a pre-ordered cold packed lunch if they wish to.

### **Remote learning**

On the strike day, remote learning will be set for students. Further details will follow on Classcharts. However, please note that teachers who are on strike will not prepare or set work for students on strike days.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A national strike by teachers is *very* unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the days that they are on strike.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact the school by email at [admin@kingswolverhampton.co.uk](mailto:admin@kingswolverhampton.co.uk)

Kind regards,



Dean Coombes  
Headteacher