



Our Ref: LTM/kmd/strikemar

Monday, 13 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Planned Industrial Action by the National Education Union (NEU) on
Wednesday, 1st March 2023**

You will be aware that following previous strike action, members of the NEU have called a further national one-day strike on Wednesday, 1st March 2023. I am writing to inform you that due to the high number of teachers at Oldbury Wells School that are members of this union, we will be partially closed to students on this day.

Arrangements for this date are different from the last strike day and are outlined below:

Wednesday 1st March

- **6th Form** – All year 12 & 13 students will be required to attend 6th Form. Students will attend face-to-face sessions in school where teachers are available and will be supported in the study centre during all other times.
- **Year 11** – Students are required in school. We have organised a focus day which will further support preparation for final examinations in the summer; all students will be provided with an overview for the day.
- **All other Year Groups:** Where possible we will be organising work for students to complete at home through the use of Satchel One using our normal distance learning procedures: <http://www.oldburywells.com/parentguardian-information/distance-learning>

Please note that on this day, all school transport will run as normal for those students required in school, alongside canteen provision at break and lunch time.

Please note that further strike days are scheduled for Wednesday, 15 March & Thursday, 16 March 2023. Arrangements for these days are being finalised, but will involve 6th form students attending on site, alongside all Year 11 students who will be completing their second round of mock examinations for identified subjects. I will write to confirm these arrangements shortly.

Staff not participating in the industrial action will be working in school on the day of the strike however, teachers are normally instructed by their own unions not to undertake the duties normally carried out by their striking colleagues, which would include covering teaching and covering supervision at breaks and lunchtime. I have therefore reluctantly taken the decision to partially close the school for most students on health and safety grounds while ensuring the safety for the reduced numbers of students on site.

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I am informing you of this decision now to allow you time to make any necessary alternative childcare arrangements where required. Should the strike be called off in time for us to change this decision, I will write to all parents immediately to inform them of further actions.

We will be providing support in school for students in years 7, 8, 9 & 10 whose parents/carers are Critical Workers and for students with a social worker or EHCP. For parents who require this support we would ask you complete the information on the following link by Friday, 17 February at 3:00pm to allow arrangements to be finalised:

<https://forms.office.com/e/GJ2XQYYPeR>

For those students working from home who would normally receive a Free School Meal, our canteen will be providing a 'grab bag' for collection at the end of the day on Tuesday, 28 February which can be collected from West side reception. Parents/Carers of students eligible for FSM can request this on the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/UQCQjUDwd0>

Thank you for your understanding, we will endeavour to ensure that the strike days continue to be managed as effectively as possible for our students and families (especially our examination groups).

Yours faithfully



Lee Tristham
Headteacher