



Wildmoor Heath School
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Friday, 27th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: NEU Strike Closure Day, Wednesday, 1st February 2023

Partial Closure of Wildmoor Heath School

Further to the school email dated 20th January 2023, I am writing to advise you of the potential impact of the forthcoming NEU industrial action strike day on Wildmoor Heath School operations on **Wednesday, 1st February 2023**.

It is highly likely that we will have a partial school closure, so it is important for you to put in place suitable contingency care plans for your child. The partial closure would affect these year groups:

Reception
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3
Year 4
Year 5.

Please note that Year 6 will operate as usual, with full staffing.

Background

A ballot of The National Education Union (NEU) teacher members met the threshold required to commence industrial action. NEU teachers will have the option to strike; this is because of a national dispute between teaching unions and the Government over teachers' pay and not because of any issues with our school or trust. Four strike days are currently planned for 1st February, 2nd March, 15th and 16th March. As teachers can opt to strike on some days only, I will deal with each day individually over the coming weeks.

Impact on Wildmoor Heath School

Concerning arrangements for **Wednesday, 1st February 2023 only**, there is a significant membership of NEU teacher members at Wildmoor Heath School, therefore we anticipate a partial closure of the school, **except for Year 6**.

You will understand that it is difficult to manage operations when teachers are not required to confirm until the morning of the strike whether they will work or not. **If any other teachers advise us that they intend to work that day, the school will send out an email at 7:45am on Wednesday morning to advise you that your child's class is open for usual curricular activity.** If you do not receive this email for your child's class, then you should assume that there is no class teaching that day and continue with your contingency care plans.

Priority Groups

We have compiled a Risk Assessment, having reviewed carefully both government guidance and our available staffing. Throughout we have put the health and safety of our pupils first and foremost.

A few priority groups of pupils from Reception to Year 5 will be invited in to school to be supported on a non-curriculum activity day. We are writing separately to parents and carers to advise which pupils are expected to be in school on Wednesday, 1st February 2023. These groups are:

1. Vulnerable children;
2. Children who currently hold an EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan);
3. Children of staff who will be working in school that day;
4. Year 6 pupils are all expected to be in school as they are unaffected by the strike.

Due to limited staffing and to ensure the health and safety of those in school, we are unable to accept Critical Workers' children.

School Meals on Wednesday, 1st February 2023

If your child has a free school meal or would like to book a school lunch, these will be provided as usual and there will be a choice. All children should come to school in school uniform, bringing a warm change of clothes for outdoor activities.

Work for Children Not in School

For those children who are not in school, teachers taking industrial action are not expected to set work. As a school, we recommend that your child accesses learning through the following excellent educational website links, which specify primary phase education plus you can select any subject and year group:

Oak National Academy

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>

BBC Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

We would also recommend that children use their personal log-ins to access:

- Times Tables Rockstars Num Bots for the younger children to practise times tables;
- Num Bots for KS1 children to practise number bonds;
- Spelling Shed for spellings practice;
- Purple Mash for computing, drawing, writing, etc.

Please also support your child with some extra reading and discussion about what they have read.

I am sorry about the potential disruption to your child's education and I understand that this will be challenging and frustrating for parents. May I ask that you avoid challenging staff on this plan and that we all continue to treat each other with respect and understanding.

Best regards,



Mrs L Semper
Headteacher