



Wildmoor Heath School
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Monday, 13th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: NEU Strike Closure Day, Wednesday, 15 and Thursday, 16 March 2023,
Partial Closure of Wildmoor Heath School**

I am writing to advise you of the potential impact of the forthcoming NEU strike days on Wildmoor Heath School operations on **Wednesday 15 and Thursday, 16 March 2023**.

It is 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. At this stage, this is the impact on our classes:

	WEDNESDAY, 15 TH MARCH	THURSDAY, 16 TH MARCH
RECEPTION	NOT IN	IN SCHOOL
YEAR 1	NOT IN	NOT IN
YEAR 2	NOT IN	IN SCHOOL
YEAR 3	NOT IN	NOT IN
YEAR 4	NOT IN	NOT IN
YEAR 5	NOT IN	NOT IN
YEAR 6	IN SCHOOL	IN SCHOOL

Wednesday, 15th March: Year 6 pupils should attend school as usual (N.B. Lion King)
Thursday, 16th March: Reception, Year 2 and Year 6 pupils should attend school.
On both days, priority group children will be invited/ are expected to attend school.

Background

A ballot of 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. The first two strike days were 1st February and 2nd March 2023, when we had partial school closures at Wildmoor Heath. Teachers can opt to strike on some days only.

Impact on Wildmoor Heath School

Concerning arrangements for Wednesday and **Thursday 15th/16th March 2023**, we anticipate a partial closure of the school as shown above. **Year 6 will operate normally on both days, and Reception and Year 2 will also be open on Thursday, 16th March 2023.** As teachers are not obliged to confirm their intention until the morning of the strike, it is difficult to manage in advance. **If any other teachers advise us that they intend to work that day, the school will send out an email at 7:45am on the mornings of Wednesday, 15th March 2023 and Thursday, 16th March 2023 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, Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 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.

These groups are:

- Vulnerable children;
- Children who currently hold an EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan);
- Children of staff who will be working in school that day;
- **Year 6 pupils are all expected to be in school on both days. Reception and Year 2 on Thursday, 16th March 2023.**

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

School Meals: 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:

1. Oak National Academy <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage>
2. BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

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

- Times Tables Rockstars Numb 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 their book.

I believe that this is the final round of strike days and am sorry about the potential disruption to your child's education. I know that this will be difficult for parents. We have worked hard to put this plan in place; therefore, may I ask that you avoid challenging any school staff on this issue and that we all continue to treat each other with respect and understanding.

Best regards,



Mrs L Semper
Headteacher