



ALLESTREE WOODLANDS SCHOOL

19th April 2023

Dear parents/carers,

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU have declared **further strike action, which will take place on Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**. The strike is happening because of the ongoing national dispute between the unions and the government over teacher pay and school funding and not because of any issues at our school.

I am getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for these dates.

As previously, we will not be able to run the usual school day. Previously, 80% of teaching staff at Woodlands were on strike making it impossible to open school as usual. This means that we will be **closed to all year groups except Y11 Y13 on 27/04/23 and 02/05/23**. As before, we will run a provision for vulnerable learners and will be in touch about this as we have done ahead of the other strike days. All students not at school but eligible for free school meals will receive a voucher to cover the cost of a meal as a replacement for lunch at school; details will be sent to families in due course.

School will be open for all Y11 and Y13 students; at present, we are unsure whether we will be able to offer taught lessons, but we will provide safe, quiet spaces for supervised study and revision as a minimum on the two strike days. I am working with the union to find an effective way forward on this. Further details will be confirmed next week once the union position is clearer.

I am sorry for the continued disruption to learning caused by this ongoing action and the fact that it is on top of additional bank holidays during this academic year. I am aware that this means some families have felt frustrated that we are continuing to run our tutor event on Thursday and Friday this week. However, this was planned well in advance, and we believe is an important opportunity for parents/carers and students to meet with the tutor to reflect on the year and consider goals and aspirations going forward.

I understand that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Allestree Woodlands remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

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.

Kind regards

Gemma Penny
Headteacher

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