

Monday 24th April 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to provide an update in light of the formal dispute between the National Education Union (NEU) and the Secretary of State because of a national dispute around pay and funding between the education unions and the government, and not because of any issues at our school or within the Trust. As a school and in accordance with government guidance, it has been our intention to remain open, which we have managed to do for the previous strike action dates.

You may be aware that further strike action is scheduled for 27th April and 2nd May. **After reviewing staffing levels alongside the potential health and safety risks associated, we have unfortunately had to make the decision to close school on the 27th April.**

I apologise that I have been unable to communicate this information before now but have only just been informed of the increase in Teachers taking part in the strike action.

There will be a very limited additional provision in place on Thursday 27th April. Attendance will be prioritised for children of critical workers as defined by:

- Pupils who have both parents/carers (or the parent/carer is a single parent family) as critical workers.
- Critical workers will be considered as those working in the NHS and/or emergency services.

If you would like to request one of these places, please complete the form via the link below. The deadline for submitting the form is **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 25th April.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/r7N9gNYvKk>

There will also be a very limited provision for pupils deemed vulnerable as defined by:

- Pupils with an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan).
- Pupils who are looked after (LAC) or Post looked after (PLAC).
- Pupils who are on the child protection register (CP) or identified as a child in need (CIN).

If you would like to request one of these places, please complete the form via the link below. The deadline for submitting the form is **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 25th April.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/r7N9gNYvKk>

All places must be allocated in advance so that registers can be put together and

safeguarding actions can take place.

Any pupil who is not in school but is entitled to Free School Meals can order a lunch grab bag. The deadline for submitting the form is **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 25th April**. These can be ordered by completing the form via the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/24uZSUesn0>

We understand the uncertainty this brings, but the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our paramount concern. I am extremely sorry about the potential disruption the strike action will have on you and to your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

There is the potential for disruption on the next strike day, 2nd May. We will aim to communicate with you regarding this as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Sarah Hallsworth
Head of School

Malc Hetherington
Executive Head