



CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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25th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: NEU Strike Action

We are sure you will be aware from recent media reports that the National Education Union (NEU) has recently announced the dates of their proposed strike action following a ballot of their members. The proposed dates, that members of the NEU are striking are:

1 February (whole country strike)

1 March (East Midlands, West Midlands, Eastern)

15 March (whole country strike)

16 March (whole country strike)

Please note that this is subject to change at any point as directed by the union.

While the planned action is as a result of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not specifically with Cardinal Newman Catholic School or Holy Cross Catholic MAC it is important that we respond accordingly in the interests of our pupils whilst respecting the rights of our staff. In anticipation of this action we have prepared a response plan to minimise disruption and ensure vulnerable pupils and the children of emergency workers, care workers and teachers are still able to attend school in person.

Pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and 12 will be asked to study remotely during strike days study materials will be provided via students Classcharts or email accounts. Pupils in Years 13 will attend school and lessons as normal if their teacher is not taking part in Strike Action or complete private study at school if their teacher is on strike action.

Pupils in Year 11 will be required to attend school and they will complete exam preparation activities in school if their teacher is taking part in the strike action or attend normal lessons if not.

Children where both parents work in essential services, care works and teachers may attend school where they will complete supervised study. Break and lunch times will operate with appropriate supervision in place in the normal way.

If your child is a pupil in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and 12 and both parents or carers are essential (emergency services), careworker or teacher and you require your child to attend school on Wednesday 1st February 2023 please complete the following form <https://forms.office.com/e/JD1n2n6Yip> to request a place, by Thursday 26 January 2023 at 2pm. If you do not require a place for your child then there is no requirement to complete the form as they can attend virtually along with other pupils.



Parents requesting a place will be contacted on Friday 27th January 2023 to verify eligibility for a supervised place. Those deemed as vulnerable children, eg: child protection or those in care will be contacted separately to confirm your child's attendance on strike days.

Any Free School Meal pupils who will not be on site on the day of the strike will be issued with a £3.00 voucher via the method used at Christmas 2022.

We appreciate that industrial action is disruptive and you may need to change your plans or working arrangements whilst this action is ongoing. We will of course continue to monitor the arrangements in place and make modifications where possible to improve support for pupils wherever possible. If the strike action is called off then we will confirm this as soon as we can and in this eventuality the school will be open as usual to all pupils.

The NEU has indicated that they will continue strike action for a further three days after this first strike on the 1 March and the 15th and 16th March. Please make a note of these dates now and we will write to you in advance of each date to confirm arrangements and whether the strike is going ahead.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please contact the school at admin@cncs.school in the first instance. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Ms E O'Connor
Headteacher



Mrs Theresa Boland
Chair of Governors