

9th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

National Education Union - strike action for teachers

15th March (whole country)	16th March (whole country)
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As you may have seen, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The next dates are **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.**

Neither the Outwood Grange Academies Trust Board nor myself as Principal are legally allowed to close the academy in sympathy with the strike, and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the health and safety of our students. The academy will only close (partially or fully) if, in our opinion and following a full risk assessment, it is not safe to remain open.

Due to the number of staff taking action, we have made the difficult decision to close the academy only to children in Reception and Year 1 on Wednesday 15th March and only to Year 2 children on Thursday 16th March, with the exception of vulnerable children who can attend as normal. All other year groups will be expected to attend as normal.

Students in Reception, Year 1 and 2 who are in receipt of free school meals may arrange to collect a grab bag between 12-12.30pm on 15th and 16th March. Please contact enquiries@newstead.outwood.com or phone the school office before 3.15pm on Monday the 13th March to order a lunch if you would like a grab bag on the strike day.

Wednesday 15th March - Closed to Reception and Year 1

Thursday 16th March - Closed to Year 2.

Online learning via Google Classroom will be available to all students not attending school and students will be expected to complete the work set.

The academy will be open as normal to all other classes and students should arrive ready for the usual 8.45am start.

As we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, decisions may have to be taken at the last minute.

This action is not against Outwood Primary Academy Newstead Green itself but is part of national industrial action organised by the trade unions about salary negotiations with the Department for Education.

In order to ensure that we can communicate any changes to these plans at short notice; which may include on the day itself, we are asking parents/carers to ensure that we hold up to date emergency contact details. If you do need to make any changes, please send to our dedicated email address for this purpose enquiries@newstead.outwood.com.

We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption but we want to give you this advance notice and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding at this time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Corbett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Mrs Lindsey Corbett
Principal