



Westerings Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mr. A. Stainsbury

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RE: Strike arrangements - parent update letter

26th June 2023

Dear Families,

I am writing to update you on our school's arrangements for the next round of NEU strikes, taking place next week (Wednesday 5th July and again on Friday 7th July). Members of the National Education Union (NEU) have voted in overwhelming numbers to take strike action for a **fully government-funded pay rise**, and not by diverting funds from schools' existing (and already overstretched) budgets. School budgets are struggling to afford the raise recommended/offered by the government, let alone the union's suggested (inflation-based) percentages. This is the core issue for many of our teachers when making their decision to join industrial action - ensuring that *their* pay rises do not directly impact on the provision for *our* children.

Due to the impact from this industrial action, **there will unfortunately be several year group closures on these days, and a move to remote learning for these children.**

	School is open for:	School is closed to:
Wednesday 5th July	EYFS (Acorns/Conkers) Year 5 (Willows/Hazels) Year 6 (Oaks/Chestnuts) on residential*** Eligible Critical Worker children* Vulnerable pupils (school discretion)**	Years 1, 2, 3, 4 All remote learning can be accessed via the Industrial Action tab at www.westerings.org
Friday 7th July	Year 2 (Poppies/Violets) Year 5 (Willows/Hazels) Eligible Critical Worker children* Vulnerable pupils (school discretion)**	Years EYFS (Acorns/Conkers), 1, 3, 4 & 6 All remote learning can be accessed via the Industrial Action tab at www.westerings.org

*At this time, our intention is to accommodate those children whose parents' work is **critical to an emergency response or front line public services** (e.g. police, paramedics, NHS, education, firefighters...). If childcare is **essential** due to the critical nature of your work, and you have no other childcare arrangements available to you (e.g. another parent, family member) please complete [THIS FORM](#) prior to midday on Monday 3rd July. Please complete this form even if you completed last term's critical worker form. We will contact you by Tuesday 4th if your child's place is accepted.

**We will contact families of pupils we consider to be vulnerable and will invite them to attend school.

***Our staffing of the residential will not be impacted. Children not attending the residential will learn remotely on this day.

Extra Provision: Early Birds, Night Owls and our catering provision (school dinners) will operate as per normal on strike days, **but only for pupils whose year groups are in school.** Bookings must be completed in the usual way (www.westerings.com).

Clubs: All clubs (e.g. Bricks4Kidz, Gym trail, music tuition, sport clubs etc.) are being postponed on these days. Either an additional session will be added to the end of term or a partial refund will be issued (details will be shared separately for impacted pupils).

cont...

Children whose classes are open on strike days **must attend school** as usual - regardless of whether their sibling can/cannot attend school.

Pupils eligible for free school meals (through the government's Pupil Premium Grant) can be provided lunch hampers for these days, if they are not able to attend school. To request a free school meal hamper for either date, please contact us **by Monday 3rd July** for a 5th July collection from the school office.

Once again, I truly apologise for the inconvenience this unavoidable disruption will cause. I hope that by giving enough notice, it enables families to plan ahead.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mr. A. Stainsbury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'M'.

Mr A. Stainsbury
Headteacher