



29 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carers

NEU Teacher Strike Action

As you are probably aware, following the recent breakdown in talks between the teaching trade unions and the Department for Education, the National Education Union have announced two further days of strike action on Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023. I am writing to give you as much notice as possible of the likely impact of the action on Wellsway School.

While the planned action is as a result of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not the school nor Trust, it is important that we respond accordingly. The senior leadership team at Wellsway School is continuing to work closely with staff in order to plan for these strike days.

We have reviewed the school timetable for both Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023 to ensure we can still manage the safe supervision of students, while minimising the impact on learning with reduced staffing levels in place.

We have endeavoured to find solutions that both meet the DfE guidance and offer different experiences for our students as result of the new strike days. Unfortunately, we are not able to do so without disadvantaging one year group and advantaging another, we have carefully considered trying to keep planned events for year groups scheduled within the staffing we have available.

Therefore, if the strike action goes ahead, I can confirm our school will remain open with the following arrangements in place:

- In order to deliver the pre-booked Science event being run by “We The Curious”, we will open to students in Year 9 on either Wednesday 5th or Friday 7th July. We will email to parents/carers and students instructions directly, as to which group students are in. When students are not in their “We The Curious” session, they will either attend their timetabled lesson or will follow an alternative provision curriculum until the end of period 5. Please note there will be a later start time of 09:45am. Provision will be made for students arriving on school transport.
- We will also be able to run the Year 7 sports events on Friday 7th July and deliver to Year 7 an alternative provision curriculum until end of period 4. Please note Year 7 should arrive at the normal time. Provision will be made for students that need to remain onsite, during period 5, to access school transport.
- Unfortunately, the school will be closed to students in Years 8 and 10 on Wednesday and Friday and Year 7 on Wednesday but will remain open to students in the Sixth Form. We will communicate directly to students in Years 7-10 on arrangements for home learning.
- We will be open for Year 12 students. Most lessons will run as normal for the whole day, though there will be some cancellations. Students will be shared a document which shows confirmed and cancelled lessons, and we aim to confirm this by 08.30 on the day.

- The school canteen will be available for students who are in school and wish to access food at break and lunch.
- A provision will be available for students identified as vulnerable, in line with Department for Education guidance; we will contact these students directly to invite them in.
- We will communicate directly with the families eligible for free school meals on arrangements for eligible students.
- We will communicate separately to students involved in pre-planned sporting and music events.

If this situation changes, we will let you know immediately.

I trust you will understand the need to make these changes to the school day and apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. It appears unlikely that the proposed NEU strike action will be averted, but if this were to happen, I will update you further.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please email enquiries@wellswayschool.com in the first instance.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Rob Pearsall

Principal and Executive Head of School
Wellsway School and IKB Academy