



24 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carers

**Re: NEU Teacher Strike Action**

I am writing to give you as much notice as possible of the likely impact of the action on Wellsway School for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

You will be aware from our letters last term the largest teaching union (National Education Union - NEU) have declared national and regional strike action by its teacher members, which is planned to take place on: **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March; Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.**

As the planned action is as a result of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not the school or Trust, it is important that we respond accordingly. As such, the senior leadership team at Wellsway School has been working closely with staff in order to plan for each strike day. At this stage, our understanding remains that a significant number of colleagues will be taking strike action.

We have reviewed the school timetable and carried out a risk assessment to ensure we can still manage the safe supervision of students while minimising the impact on learning with reduced staffing levels in place.

Therefore, I can confirm the following arrangements will be in place on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**:

- Unfortunately, the school will be closed to students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 but will remain open to students in Year 11 and the Sixth Form, who we hope you will understand we have prioritised due to the closeness of their exams. We will communicate directly to students in Years 7-10 on arrangements for home learning.
- We will be open for Year 12 and Year 13 students. Most lessons will run as normal for the whole day for these year groups 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 will be open for Year 11 students for internal exams as planned. We will communicate directly to students in Years 11 on arrangements for the day.
- On 2<sup>nd</sup> March the school canteen will be available for Year 11, 12 and 13 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.
- Students who are eligible for free school meals will be able to pick up a lunch to take home on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March if they wish. We will communicate directly with the families of eligible students.

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](mailto:enquiries@wellswayschool.com) in the first instance.

We will contact you again once we are clear about our school's ability to remain open on the other days of NEU strike action, providing as much notice as possible should the school not be able to open fully on these days.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Pearsall', written in a cursive style.

**Rob Pearsall**

Principal and Executive Head of School  
Wellsway School and IKB Academy