

10th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

National Education Union - strike action for teachers

Proposed strike days

15 March (whole country)	16 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 scheduled days are **Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March**.

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

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 and staff. On Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March, the Academy will be partially open to the following year groups and students who fulfil the extremely vulnerable criteria.

Wednesday 15th March	Thursday 16th March
Open to Year 11	Open to Year 11
Open to Year 9	Open to Year 10
Open to extremely vulnerable	Open to extremely vulnerable

This decision has been made following a full risk assessment, which has identified we may not have enough staff to be safe to open to all year groups.

Year groups mentioned above will be expected to attend as normal on their allocated days, however there may be some alteration to their usual timetabled curriculum on this day. As previously stated, those students within the extremely vulnerable category will also be invited into the Academy. Our Deeps support staff will contact parents and carers in advance and will provide further information of the provision for them on the day. The Academy will be open to these groups of students for the usual 8.45am start, and normal Academy times will apply throughout the remainder of the day.

Whilst the Academy will be closed to some students, online learning via Google Classroom will be available to all students not in the Academy, and students will be expected to complete the work set. Please ensure that your child is aware of their Google Classroom login prior to Wednesday 15th March.

Students in receipt of free school meals, who are not invited to attend the Academy, may attend between 12pm and 1pm to collect a pre-ordered packed lunch from Reception. Please complete this Google Form [LUNCH ORDER](#) to order your child's lunch if required.

In order to ensure that we can communicate any changes to these plans at short notice, which may include information about Google Classroom provision 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 the email address dedicated for this purpose: enquires@ripon.outwood.com.

We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption and we will always endeavour to minimise that disruption as much as possible, but we wanted to give you advance notice and thank you for your patience and understanding at this time.

Yours faithfully,



Mr W Pratt.
Principal