

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: MQ/SM

30th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As explained in my letter last week, the National Education Union (NEU), in accordance with the provisions of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1992, are calling upon their members to strike; approximately half of Oaklands teaching staff are members of the NEU.

The next proposed industrial action will take place on **Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July**. In accordance with the regulations, Trade Union members do not have to give advance notice of their intention to strike, nor do they have to respond when asked. Despite this, some colleagues have given me notice.

Non-striking staff cannot be compelled to cover for striking colleagues. This situation is further compounded by staff who have young children needing to take leave as their children's schools are shut.

To determine if there will be the need for a full or partial closure on this day, we have undertaken a Risk Assessment.

Wednesday 5th July The school will remain open to all students

Friday 7th July Students in Year 9 only should not come to school on this day

Provision will be made in school for vulnerable students in Years 9 includes those with an EHCP, on child protection plan, or who are looked after. Please contact the Head of Year 9 and if this is required.

To confirm, students in Year 10 on work experience should all continue with this provision. Year 12 students taking internal exams should attend these in accordance with the exam timetable.

We appreciate that industrial action is disruptive, and you may need to change your plans or working arrangements, whilst this action is ongoing. We will, of course, continue to monitor the arrangements in place and make modifications to improve support for students, wherever possible. However, ensuring the health and safety of our students must take priority. I cannot risk having large numbers of students in school without supervision during lessons, lunchtime or breaktime.

Students who are eligible for free school meals and not in school will be provided with a voucher to cover lunch costs. Further details about this will be provided to relevant families.

Staff who are on strike cannot be compelled to set work for students who are at home although some may choose to do so. Staff not on strike will set work through MS Teams.

The information in this letter reflects the position at the time of writing, there is a chance that action may be suspended. Equally, if I become aware before the 5th July that significantly more staff intend to strike then further action may be necessary in school, please be aware that notification of this could be at short notice.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Quinn', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mr M Quinn
Headteacher