

## **Outwood Academy Hasland Hall**

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Lead Principal: Mr Steve Roberts
Principal: Mr Ian Cooper

25th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## National Education Union - strike action for teachers

As you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The first date scheduled is Wednesday 01 February. The other three dates are Wednesday 01 March, Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March, but we will update you of the plans closer to those dates as the Secretary of State is meeting with trade unions to try to resolve the outstanding issues.

Whilst we have been informed of these proposed dates, and we are informing you of them so you can plan your own arrangements, please presume that the school will be open to all until we confirm otherwise ahead of each date; this will be via our normal text service.

This action is not against Outwood Academy Hasland Hall 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. The academy will only close (partially or fully) if, in our opinion and following a full risk assessment, it is not safe to remain open.

Due to the number of staff taking action, we have made the difficult decision to partially close the academy on the first day (01 February) to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, with the exception of any vulnerable students who can attend as normal. We will update you again about the plan for the academy before the next proposed strike date.

The academy will be open as normal to all year II students and students classed

as vulnerable and should arrive for the usual 8.25 am start.

We will notify individual families directly if their sons or daughters are able to attend as a vulnerable student. The criteria being used are children who are looked after, students who are under child

protection or child in need plans and any student with an education and health care plan. We will

update you again about the plan for the academy before the next proposed strike date.

Whilst the academy will be closed to some students, online learning via Google Classroom

will be available to all students and students will be expected to complete the work set.

Students in all year groups in receipt of free school meals may attend between 12.30 and

Ipm for their lunch.

In order to ensure that we can communicate any changes to these plans at short notice;

which may include 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 our

dedicated email address for this purpose enquires@haslandhall.outwood.com. We will

always endeavour to minimise disruption as much as possible.

We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption but we want to give you

this advance notice and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding at this

time.

Yours faithfully

Mr Ian Cooper

**Principal**