

25 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

National Education Union - strike action for teachers

- **1st February (whole country)**
- **1st March West Midlands and East Midlands**
- **15th March (whole country)**
- **16th March (whole country)**

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 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.

This action is not against Outwood Post 16 Centre 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 Head of Centre 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.

On Wednesday 1st February the Post 16 Centre will be open to the following teaching groups and normal lessons will take place:-

Year 13

Art & Design - Fine Art

Politics

Health & Social Care

Maths

Outwood Grange Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 06995649.

Registered office address: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF.

VAT number: 158 2720 04. Outwood Grange Academies Trust is an exempt charity.

A list of Directors' names is open to inspection at our registered office.

Physical Education
Psychology
Core Maths
Extended Project

Year 12

Business (both groups)
Chemistry
Product Design
Law
Psychology (room F05 group)
GCSE Maths

However, the Post 16 Centre will be open to all students period 1 and 2 who may wish to attend to complete self-study on google classroom, use the LRC, do small group work or complete homework and a location will be provided for you to do this.

Year 13 on-site study session, 11.00am - 2.30pm, will go ahead as usual.

Silver D of E is on at 11.00am as usual.

Wellbeing Wednesday Sessions and Spinning Class will go ahead as usual.

Students in both year groups in receipt of free school meals may attend to collect a lunch bag between 12.30pm and 1pm. If you would like to collect a lunch bag please complete this [Google Form - Lunch Bag](#)

For Year 12 & 13 and vulnerable students, the academy will be open as normal and students should arrive ready for the usual 8.25am start.

As we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to fully close may have to be taken at the last minute. However, every effort will be made to give notice - at the latest by the day before.

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 enquiries@p16worksop.outwood.com. We will always endeavour to minimise disruption as much as possible.

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

Janette Shea
Head of Centre