

27 June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

In brief

The next two days of proposed teacher industrial action (strike) are on Wednesday 5 July and Friday 7 July.

- On Wednesday 5 July, the school site will be closed to students in Years 8, 9 and 10.
- Year 7 students are expected to attend, this is not optional.
- Year 10 are expected to continue to take part in any work experience that has been arranged.
- Students in Year 8 and 9, and 10 (not on work experience) are expected to log in to Google Classroom each lesson.

- On Friday 7 July the school site will be closed to students in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Year 10 students are expected to attend, this is not optional.
- Year 8 who are booked on the trip to the Imperial War Museum that has been arranged, will continue as planned.
- Students in Year 7, 8, 9 are expected to log in to Google Classroom each lesson.

Please see paragraph below re NHS and emergency service workers.

The detail

The next proposed days of industrial action by teachers in the National Education Union (NEU) are Wednesday 5 July and Friday 7 July.

Wednesday 5 July

For students in Years 8 and 9, and 10 (not on work experience), online learning will be provided wherever possible via Google Classroom, but please be aware that staff taking part in industrial action cannot be compelled to set work, although some may choose to do so. Year 10 students all have access to online learning platforms including Tassomai, GCSE Pod, Sparx and Seneca. Students already have their logins and can sign in through Google. Year 8 and 9 can access BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy.

Students in Year 10 have their second day of work experience on Wednesday 5 July. This will still go ahead as planned.

Year 7 students are expected to attend school, the site is open as normal to them. Year 7 students will have normal lessons if their teacher is not taking strike action. If they are on strike then the students will be based in ICT suites, where they can access their online learning. This is a compulsory day for Year 7 so any student not attending school on this day will be marked as unauthorised, if they are not absent due to illness. Food will be available to Year 7 students at break and at lunchtime in the canteen.

Friday 7 July

For students in Years 7, 8 and 9, online learning will be provided wherever possible via Google Classroom, but as explained above, staff taking part in industrial action cannot be compelled to set work, although some may choose to do so. Year 7, 8 and 9 can access BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy.

Some students in Year 8 have a trip planned to the Imperial War Museum on Friday 7 July. This will still go ahead as planned.

Year 10 students are expected to attend school, the site is open as normal to them. Year 10 students will have normal lessons if their teacher is not taking strike action. If they are on strike then the students will be based in ICT suites, where they can access their online learning. This is a compulsory day for Year 10 so any student not attending school on this day will be marked as unauthorised, if they are not absent due to illness. Food will be available to Year 10 students at break and at lunchtime in the canteen.

The guidance was updated for the last strike days. Although we will be unable to offer places to all critical worker's children, we are happy to discuss the circumstances of children of NHS staff and other emergency services. The number of staff with the potential to strike means that Health and Safety has to be our priority, so we ask that this is only taken up if the household does not have any other form of supervision or support. Therefore if you feel that it is essential that your child comes to school, please contact Donna Keogh: donna.keogh@iwef.org.uk.

If your child is in a year group not in school and is entitled to free school meals, and you would like to apply for a voucher for the days that they are not in school, then please contact Donna Keogh: donna.keogh@iwef.org.uk.

As before, the action is being taken because of a national dispute between the unions and the Government, not because of any issues at our site. We ask that all members of the community respect the individual's right to take part in the industrial action, which is, as I mentioned previously, because of a national dispute between the unions and the Government, not because of any issues within the Federation. Because we cannot know until the day of the strike which teachers are or are not on strike it is not possible to plan ahead any more than we have done here. My apologies for the inconvenience this causes.



Matthew Parr-Burman
Executive Headteacher
Isle of Wight Education Federation