

24th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Re: Strike Action

I am sure you will be aware from recent media reports that the National Education Union (NEU) has declared strike action, which will take place on **Wednesday 1st February 2023**. I am writing to give you as much notice as possible of the likely impact of the action on the Academy.

While the planned action is as a result of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not specifically Bedford College Academies Trust or its schools, it is important that we respond accordingly in the interests of our students whilst respecting the rights of our staff. In anticipation of this action we have already prepared a response plan to minimise disruption and ensure vulnerable students and the children of critical workers are still able to attend school in person.

Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be asked to study independently at home on the day, with work set for them on Edulink. Students in Years 11 and 12 will have a face to face onsite education made up of timetabled lessons from teachers who are present and supervised independent revision and study periods.

Vulnerable students (Annex A of linked document) and the children of critical workers (Annex B of linked document) will also be able to attend school to be supervised in a range of independent learning activities. If your child is a student in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and you require your child to attend the Academy on Wednesday 1st February 2023 because you are a critical worker, please complete the form below **by Friday 27th January 2023**. If you do not require a place for your child then there is no requirement to complete the form as they can complete work set at home as described above.



Please paste this address into your browser to open the **form** (submit one per child): <https://forms.gle/mbzPWgcVw34FgV8L6>

If you are a parent of a vulnerable child we will contact you separately to confirm your child's attendance on strike days.

For any students entitled to Free School Meals who will not be on site on the day of the strike, they may collect a packed lunch on the 31st of January between 3.40-3.50pm from the Academy dining room.

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 where possible to improve support for students wherever possible. If the strike action is called off then we will confirm this as soon as we can and in this eventuality the school will be open as usual to all students.

The NEU has indicated that they will continue strike action on the **1st March and potentially also on the 15th and 16th March**. Please make a note of these dates now and I will write to you in advance of each date to confirm any changes to arrangements and whether the strike is going ahead.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please contact the Academy at info@wixamsAcademy.co.uk in the first instance. As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Spyropoulos



Principal