



Saint Joseph's

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Friday 10 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, members of the National Education Union (NEU) in England have voted in favour of strike action, the next being Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

After careful consideration of the information currently available to us and a risk assessment of health and safety and safeguarding factors, we have made the decision that St Joseph's Catholic School will be closed to Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students on both Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

School will be open to the following students:

- Year 11 students
- Vulnerable Students as defined by the DFE. The precise definition can be found in Appendix A.
- Students whose parents are employed on the day of the strike in the emergency response services or critical care service.

If you believe your child is vulnerable or you are a parent/carer who works for the emergency services or within the critical care service, you are asked to click on the link below to book a place in school.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=5mqvn2ABckeZprgzX8G2EvR5wSSDE1BlvsITXEHWA1UQkVBTKRYM1QxN1ZIT1JFSFA2S1FDRzg5Ny4u>

If your child is attending school due to being in one of the above categories, a range of cold food and snacks will be available to be purchased from the canteen at both break and lunch, alternatively students can bring their own packed lunches. Due to teachers striking, they will not be in a position to lead remote learning sessions, therefore, students at home will be provided with work to complete and this will be accessible from the school website via the links below:

- [Higher Attainers](#) (for the booklets at the bottom)
- [Quick Links](#)

Whilst we are aware the strike action taken is not against the school, we are very sorry for the disruption this will cause you. At this stage we have not made a decision on the two other subsequent planned days of industrial action. We will continue following national guidance and make a decision about each individual planned day based on the information we receive.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Ridley
Headteacher

Annex A

Vulnerable Children and Young People Vulnerable children and young people include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, (including children and young people who have a child in need plan or a child protection plan) and children who are looked-after by the local authority
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance.

This might include:

- children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services or who have previously received support from children's social care services (as identified by local authorities)
- adopted children or children on a special guardianship order
- those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
- those living in temporary accommodation
- those who are young carers
- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- care leavers
- children and young people in a family circumstance presenting challenges for them, such as drug and alcohol misuse, parental offending, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health