



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

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27th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to our letter a month ago, we are writing to update you regarding the planned industrial action on **Thursday, 2nd March**. This is part of a series of dates announced by the National Education Union (NEU) for national and regional strikes. These are the dates which will impact Atlantic Academy.

- Thursday 2nd March 2023: all eligible members in the following English regions: London, South East, South West.
- Wednesday 15th March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.
- Thursday 16th March 2023: all eligible members in England and Wales.

This further industrial action on Thursday 2nd March is envisaged to affect a similar number of teachers to last month's strike. Should Thursday's strike action be cancelled, we will write to you to explain that school will continue as normal.

We want to reassure you that we are doing everything to minimise that disruption, especially for those students who will be sitting exams this year. At Atlantic we have a number of staff in the NEU and in addition, we are unable to ask members of other unions to cover classes for staff who take industrial action. Staff in the NEU are under no obligation to tell us if they will or will not be in school during these days.

In situations like this, safety is our biggest priority and we will only arrange lessons in school where we can ensure a safe ratio of staff to students. We are in a position to explain how this second day of strike action may affect you and your child. It is worth noting that the following information concerns the industrial action taking place on **Thursday the 2nd of March**.

On this date we will be open to **Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11**, students only. We are sorry if this presents a problem to parents of students in other year groups. We do understand that this decision may cause some difficulties to some families and we have not taken this decision lightly. In order to make things run smoothly at school we have also made the following changes to the school day:

- Years Reception 5,6,7,8 and 9 will remain at home, where on-line tasks will be provided on their online platforms.
- Parents of students in Years Reception, 5,6,7,8 and 9 in receipt of free school meals (FSM) will receive a supermarket voucher by email on the day, Thursday 2nd March.

This strike is the result of disputes between the NEU and the Government. It is not due to any actions taken by Atlantic Academy. We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and we will inform you if there are any changes to these plans as soon as possible.



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We continue to recognise and respect the right of our staff to take part in industrial action and ask that all members of our community continue to treat each other with respect. We understand that the situation may be frustrating and thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Bishop
Principals

Miss Heppell