

AUDENSHAW SCHOOL

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO HELP BUILD
EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG MEN.

Principal: **Mr P Taylor**

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21 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Industrial Strike Days - Thursday 27th April and Tuesday the 2nd of May 2023

I do hope this finds you well and you enjoyed a relaxing and joyful half term break. It's been superb hearing about all the activities and experiences the students had with family and friends over the course of the holiday. By the same token, it's just great to be back, we now look forward to another excellent term at Audenshaw school. I wanted to start by thanking all our families and the wider community for the ongoing understanding and support during this period where we are navigating through a series of planned strike action.

As you may or may not be aware, that the National Education Union (NEU) are intending to take further industrial strike action on **Thursday 27th April** and **Tuesday the 2nd of May 2023**. I wanted to make clear again that the action is not against the school but forms part of national union action concerning the **funding levels for schools, changes to the pay, pensions and conditions of their members, teacher recruitment and retention and a range of other national working condition related issues**.

I will again add, it isn't appropriate for me to comment in any manner on the justification of such action and my role is very much around ensuring practical arrangements are in place for the day(s) mentioned and opening the school where it is safe and sensible to do so dependent on staffing levels.

To provide a little further context, there is no requirement on trade unions to inform us of exactly which members of staff will act/strike, and it may be that they will not know themselves as there is no obligation on members to obey a strike call.

As you are well aware, we pride ourselves on working closely both as a staff body and wider community, with this in mind we are continuing to undertake a full risk assessment on how the strike action may impact our school. What we have ascertained at this stage, is that a number of our staff are in the NEU, and therefore I regret to inform you that there **will not be sufficient staff in school that day for Audenshaw to run a full curriculum offer for all students**.

We are confident we can **open for two-year groups on the first strike day – Thursday 27th April**, and will be able to staff the school in line with our risk assessment, then only Y11 will be on site during the second date – **Tuesday 2nd May**.

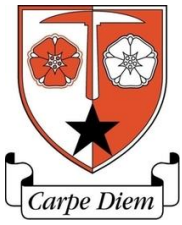
Plans - Thursday 27th April

In order to provide as much time as possible for families to arrange plans on the day, I would like to inform you that on **Thursday 27th April**, we will have the following school day;

- **School open to Year 7 and Year 11 students (including vulnerable students), all day.**
- Year 8, 9 and 10 will work remotely, from home and access planned activities.

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE





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Plans - Tuesday 2nd of May

On **Tuesday 2nd of May**, we will have the following school day;

- School open to **Year 11s and vulnerable students only.**

Year 7,8, 9 and 10 will **work remotely**, from home and access planned activities.

In regards to **Free School Meals** for those students who are in receipt of this provision and are currently eligible please email: admin@audenshawschool.org.uk **by 12pm Monday 24th April** with: Student name, Student Form. Your son will then be able to collect a packed lunch from school on both days at 12.00pm. We will only provide this provision to those students who receive this provision currently and kindly ask that if you are unable to collect the meal you do not request one to avoid food waste.

NB: Children of critical workers for example; Health & Social Care, Education and Key Public Services of years 8, 9 and 10 (April 27th), and Years 7,8,9 and 10 (May 2nd) are therefore asked as communicated by the Department for Education guidance, to keep children at home where possible. However, should this be an issue then please email admin@audenshawschool.org.uk stating your name, the name of the employer etc and we will undertake the relevant checks **no later than Monday 24th April 2023- 12pm.**

As ever this is subject to change as we review staffing/absence nearer to the 27th, April but as it stands now, **families should plan for this being the structure of each day.**

I really do appreciate your ongoing support,

Kind Regards,

Mr P Taylor
Principal MA BA (Hons) NPQH

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