

AUDENSHAW SCHOOL

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO HELP BUILD
EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG MEN.

Principal: **Mr P Taylor**

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27 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Industrial Strike Days – Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023

I wanted to start by thanking all of our families and the wider community for the ongoing understanding and support during this period of industrial action we are navigating through.

As you may or may not be aware, that the National Education Union (NEU) are intending to take further industrial strike action on **Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July 2023**. NEU members are under no obligation to inform the school of their intentions to withhold their labour on days of industrial action. However, I am grateful to our staff who have indicated if they intend to observe the union calls to strike. Please do note, members can change their mind right up to the morning of the strike. The information we now hold has led to internal planning to take place as per our risk assessment and we are now in a position to update families as to the opening of Audenshaw School on both days.

My response to the industrial action has been informed once again by guidance from the Department of Education (DfE), National Association of Headteachers (NAHT), and Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL). 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.**

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 those days for Audenshaw School to run a full curriculum offer for all students.**

We are confident we can **open for two-year groups on the first strike day up to lunchtime (Wednesday 5th July)** and will be able to staff the school in line with our risk assessment, then **only Y7** will be on site during the **second-strike day (Friday 7th July)** Vulnerable students can access education on both strike days.

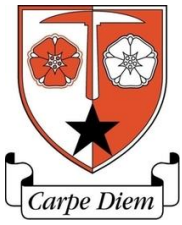
Plans - Wednesday 5th July

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 **Wednesday 5th July**, we will have the following school day;

- **School open to Year 8 and Year 10 students (including vulnerable students), Start of school day – 8.20am until Period 4 (1pm).** Lunch will be available for those in receipt of free school meals (FSM) only, all other students may leave at 1pm. For those who receive their FSM and do wish to collect a lunch this date in years 8 & 10, parents must email admin@audenshawschool.org.uk **no later than 12pm Friday 30th June** with: Student name, Student Form so we can plan accordingly with the canteen.

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • RESILIENCE





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- **Note, there will not be school buses available so families need to make arrangements here for students to safely arrive home.**
- **On this date Years 7 and 9 will work remotely from home and access planned activities.**
- For those in Years 7 & 9 who receive **Free School Meals** and are currently eligible please email: admin@audenshawschool.org.uk **no later than 12pm Friday 30th June** with: Student name, Student Form if you wish your son to come to school to collect a packed lunch on this date. Your son will then be able to collect a packed lunch from school at 1.00pm. 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.

Plans – Friday 7th July

On **Friday 7th of July**, we will have the following school day;

- **School open to Year 7 and vulnerable students only – all day.**
- **On this date Years 8, 9 and 10 will work remotely, from home and access planned activities.**
- For those in Years 8, 9 & 10 who receive **Free School Meals** and are currently eligible please email: admin@audenshawschool.org.uk **no later than 12pm Friday 30th June** with: Student name, Student Form if you wish your son to come to school to collect a packed lunch on this date. Your son will then be able to collect a packed lunch from school 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 7 and 9 (5th July) and Years 8,9 and 10 (July 7th) 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 12pm Friday 30th June.**

As ever this is subject to change as we review staffing/absence nearer to the July 5th, 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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