

Monday 23rd January 2023

Teachers' Industrial Action – Spring Term 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has voted in favour of industrial action by their members. The union has informed us that strikes will take place on:

- Wednesday 1st February 2023
- Wednesday 1st March 2023
- Wednesday 15th March 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023

I wanted to reassure you that are working hard to make sure learning continues at Jewellery Quarter Academy during the strike action. We are still finalising our plans and I will confirm them next week but at this stage I can confirm the following arrangements:

- **School will remain open to 'vulnerable' students and students whose parents/carers are key workers.** If you are a key worker and need your child to come into school on these dates, please contact the school via email (enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy) to discuss this further.
- **Students in Years 7-10 will receive remote learning** through our well-established remote education provision, following the subjects they would usually have on those days. We aim to provide 'live' lessons where staffing permits. **Students in these year groups should not come into school on strike days.**
- Our aim is to provide **'in-person' teaching for Year 11 students who should attend as normal**, but this will depend on staffing levels and, if we do not have insufficient teachers available to do this safely, we will provide remote learning to Year 11 students instead.
 - Students in Year 11 who are sitting their Digital Information Technology public exam on the morning of 1st February 2023 will still be able to sit that examination and we will communicate more details about this shortly to families of candidates.
 - An amended mock exam timetable for Year 11 students will be published shortly.

I understand some parents may have concerns about the disruption, but I would like to reiterate that we will be working hard to ensure your child's education does not suffer as a result of this industrial action. Thank you for your continued support.

We will confirm final plans no later than Monday 30th January 2023.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Barton - Headteacher

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When will the strikes take place?

Strikes will take place on:

- Wednesday 1st February 2023 (National strike)
- Wednesday 1st March 2023 (Regional strike)
- Wednesday 15th March 2023 (National strike)
- Thursday 16th March 2023 (National strike)

Why have we chosen to provide remote education on strike days?

A proportion of our staff body are members of the NEU and so, having completed a thorough risk assessment, we do not have sufficient staffing to have all students in school. Our well-established remote provision will be used to ensure your child's education continues.

My child is entitled to Free School Meals. Will these be provided?

We will offer every child in Year 7-10, who is entitled to Free School Meals, a packed lunch to take home the day before a strike. If families need further support, please get in touch via the usual channels.

My child is in Year 7-10. How can I support my child to access remote learning?

It's important your child can access the remote learning provision. They can do this on many devices but they will need their MS Teams (Outlook 365) logins. Our clear Remote Learning policy and procedures are online: <https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/parents-and-carers/home-learning/> Families who require digital support can get in touch and make an application to borrow devices at: https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Ors2DDw07kKfFk8X_zexu-yVEZJcA2IKm2Q4wkLhBDpUNDFFTVRJOTNMOEaWERPRVdUMVpIQUK1Qi4u We will be giving all our students a refresher on using Microsoft Teams this week.

My child is in Year 11. What are the arrangements?

We are aiming for it to be a normal school day for Year 11. They should arrive before 8.30 for a free breakfast, They will have assembly and then 5 lessons in their core subjects so they don't miss out on learning time ahead of their Summer exams. Lunch arrangements will be as they are on a normal school day.