



Sir Graham Balfour School

Member of Sir Graham Balfour Multi-Academy Trust

Our Ref: MMM / VM

30th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the time of writing this letter, the strikes scheduled for the 5th and 7th July in the trade dispute between the National Education Union (NEU) and the government will go ahead. I said in my previous letter that I will keep you informed about further developments in the trade dispute and I am sorry to say that the situation remains at a standstill. No negotiations have taken place since Spring and the government have not yet released details of the pay award for the 2023-24 academic year, nor confirmed whether it will be fully funded or if schools will have to make cuts to areas of their provision to part fund the pay award. This situation is causing a great degree of uncertainty across the profession and has led to the education unions (the NEU, ASCL, the NAHT and the NASUWT) balloting their members about taking further strike action in the Autumn term.

The rest of this letter gives details of our arrangements for both days of the strike action.

Arrangements for Wednesday 5th July only

- School will be open for students in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 only.
- School will be closed for students in Year 8 and Year 9. Students in these year groups should remain at home and they will be provided with remote learning to complete on this day of the strike.
- School buses will run as usual for students in Year 7, Year 10 and Year 12 only. The school canteen will also be open as normal.
- Students will need to bring trainers to school in their bags.
- All after school and lunchtime clubs will be cancelled.
- The Year 9 Celebration Evening has been postponed. The new date for this is Monday 17th July.

Arrangements for Friday 7th July only

- School will be open for students in Year 8, Year 9 and Year 12 only.
- School will be closed for students in Year 7 and Year 10. Students in these year groups should remain at home and they will be provided with remote learning to complete on this day of the strike.
- School buses will run as usual for students in Year 8, Year 9 and Year 12. The school canteen will also be open as normal.
- Students will need to bring trainers to school in their bags.
- All after school and lunchtime clubs will be cancelled.

If the situation changes over the weekend, then I will be in touch with any updates to our arrangements.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Mason
Headteacher