

Our Ref JD/Strike1Feb

Head of School: Miss J Driver

27 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Strike Action Update - Full Closure of Queen Katharine Academy (QKA) on Wednesday 1st February 2023

As you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced that they will be taking part in industrial action on Wednesday 1 February 2023 due to a national dispute with the government around pay and school funding.

I am writing to you to update on arrangements for the day. While predicting the impact of strike action is difficult, we are aware that some of our staff are members of the NEU and are therefore likely to strike.

All schools across the country are required to have an appropriate number of staff, based on the number of students, that need to be in school for health and safety reasons and unfortunately, we are likely to fall below this number.

We, therefore, have no choice but to close to all students in Year 7 to Year 14 on Wednesday 1st February.

We will, however, remain open for:

- Key Worker and Vulnerable Children from all year groups (parents and carers of those students will be contacted separately).
- Students requiring a safe study space for the whole day (8.45am-2:45pm). Students will be able to only access work on Teams in a silent study space.
- Please complete [this link](#) if this is required for your child – by Tuesday 31st 2pm.

Students entitled to Free School Meals will be issued on the day with a voucher sent by email via our provider, Wonde. If you have any queries, please contact Kirsty Cleworth: kirsty.cleworth@qka.education

During their time at home, work for students will be set on Teams in the same way as any home learning, for more information please click [this link](#) to the website.

The school will reopen to everyone on Thursday 2nd February.

There are also future dates where this industrial action will be taken on Wednesday 1 March 2023; Wednesday 15 March 2023 and Thursday 16 March 2023. We will review our arrangements prior to each of the other scheduled strike dates and communicate plans to you in advance.

I apologise for the disruption these decisions will cause, but I want to assure you that we will always act in the best interests of our students' safety and wellbeing.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

Yours sincerely



Miss J Driver
Head of School

