

Leycroft Academy

Administrative Centre: Gressel Lane, Tile Cross, B33 9UE.
0121 566 6690



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Re: Planned strike action at Leycroft Academy on Wednesday 1st February 2023

We write further to our previous correspondence to update you on the progress of our contingency planning during the forthcoming strike action in schools.

Background

We have had confirmation from NEU that members of the union intend to take formal industrial action by participating in a strike which will take place on Wednesday 1st February.

The strike action is in relation to a national dispute around teacher and school staff pay. I wanted to take this opportunity to further explain the dispute and to also outline the school's plans during the strike.

What is the dispute which has led to the strike about?

As you may know, over the summer the Department for Education agreed to a 5% pay rise for teachers. Teaching unions across England and Scotland, including NEU are in dispute with the Department for Education regarding their request for teachers pay to keep up with inflation and the cost of living.

What will happen at the school during the strike?

Leycroft Academy will be **closed** for all pupils except for those who are identified as vulnerable. This means you will be able to access remote learning via links on Class Dojo and/or text message. If your child is entitled to free school meals, then you will be provided with a voucher code for the value of £2.50. Parents will be informed separately if their child is due to attend school on Wednesday 1st February. If your child is not invited into school on Wednesday, then please assume that your child is to remain at home on this day.

We have tried to give parents and carers as much notice as possible of these circumstances. We appreciate that any closure may be disruptive to you, for which we apologise. We hope that you understand we have not taken these decisions lightly and had to take decisions to secure the health and safety of your child and any non-striking staff in consideration of anticipated heavily reduced numbers of staffing.

Lastly, we want to take this opportunity to reiterate that your child's education is important to *all* staff at Leycroft Academy. We hope that by putting in place these contingency plans we can limit any impact the strike could have to your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J.M. Kiernan'.

Joanne Kiernan

Interim Headteacher