

25th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## Industrial Action - Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023.

I hope this letter finds you well.

As you may be aware, the next planned series of industrial action for those staff who are members of the National Education Union (NEU), will be across 2 days, Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May 2023. This action is not against King James's School itself but is part of national industrial action organised by the trade unions about salary and funding negotiations with the Department for Education. I am writing to reassure you about what this means and how it will impact your child.

Striking is the right of every teacher who is part of a union and is a personal choice which we respect as a school. As Headteacher, my primary responsibility is to ensure our students receive the highest standard of education and care. As such, please rest assured that we have comprehensive plans in place to ensure your child can continue their learning on those days with as minimal disruption as possible.

The safety and wellbeing of our students remains our top priority. As we have a number of school staff who are members of the NEU and teachers are not obliged to cover for absent colleagues or tell us if they plan to strike, it is challenging for us to ensure the school can open safely for all students. For this reason, arrangements are as follows:

### School will be **CLOSED** to students in Years 7 to 10. School is **OPEN** for Years 11-13.

#### **Arrangements for Years 7-10:**

Teachers who are working will provide work resources on ItsLearning for students to complete at home. We have also included some generic materials at the foot of this letter.

If students (or parents) face any issues with access to the learning platform our helpdesk will be available by contacting its@king-james.co.uk

# Arrangements for Years 11, 12 and 13:

All students in Years 11, 12 and 13 should **attend school** and we hope that around 60% of their lessons will continue as normal. Buses and transportation will run as usual.

In case their normal lesson is not running, students should bring revision resources into school from home. There will also be work available for them to complete on ItsLearning.

Please note: Planned external exams will go ahead as normal for GCSE Textiles on Thursday 26 April and GCSE German (speaking exam) on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. The unions are permitting striking teachers to attend school in order to supervise these exams.

Thank you for your support with these arrangements and we look forward to seeing all of Year 11, 12 and 13 in school. I will update you again about the plan for the school before the next proposed strike date if anything changes but thought it was important to give you this advance notice.

Best wishes.

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Clare Martin **Headteacher** 

## Further resources available online:

Key Stage 3

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z4kw2hv

https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-3

https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/courses/add?Price=Free&Age+Group=KS3

Key Stage 4

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z98jmp3

https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-4

https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/courses/add?Price=Free&Age+Group=GCSE

www.quizlet.com