

East Birmingham Network Academy

30th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

You may be aware from media coverage and from my previous letter that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared strike action, the first day of which is due to take place on Wednesday 1st February 2023.

This Industrial Action is taking place across the country in relation to the national pay agreement and how it is funded by government, rather than any local issue. I am writing today to inform you that EBN Academy 2 will be open on Wednesday 1st February 2023 for the following students only: -

- **All of Year 11 until 1.30pm** – Year 11 will be taught their normal lessons on the day of the strike but will finish at 1.30pm.
- **All of Year 9 until 1.30pm** – Year 9 will be taught their normal lessons on the day of the strike but will finish at 1.30pm.
- **The Academy will be closed to all of Year 10 other than those students who are children of critical workers or are classed as vulnerable.** If your child falls under one of these categories, please contact us to let us know if you require provision on Wednesday. For any students requiring provision they will follow the same timings as Year 9 and 11.

All students on site are expected to be in their **normal full school uniform**. Years 10 will be set work to complete on the day at home. This will be provided to the students on Tuesday 31st January.

There are a further 3 strike days planned that will affect the opening of EBN Academy 2. These are planned for 1st March 2023, 15th March 2023, and 16th March 2023. We will write to you nearer the time with opening arrangements on these dates.

Some staff might form a picket line outside the school. A picket line is where staff gather near the entrance to a workplace to protest in person, they may be holding notice boards or banners. If that is the case, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all students and parents that as a Trust we support our staff's legal right to strike. Please ensure that any interactions you have with staff are courteous and respectful as they would be on any other day.

We would also like to remind you that it is unlawful for people who are not members of staff at the school (or their union representatives) to join a picket line. We therefore ask parents or carers or pupils to refrain from joining any picket line.

We appreciate that any closure / partial 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 reduced numbers of staffing. If there are any further changes to arrangements for the 1st February 2023 we will let you know as soon as possible.

Lastly, we want to take this opportunity to reiterate that your child's education is important to all staff at EBN Academy 2. We hope that by putting in place these contingency plans we can limit any impact the strike could have to your child's education.

East Birmingham Network Academy

If you have any questions relating to the arrangements for 1st February please contact the school directly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mat Baldwin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mr Matthew Baldwin
Executive Head Teacher