

Kea Community Primary School

21 April 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Re: Industrial Action

You will be aware following my previous letters and media coverage that the NEU Teaching Union have declared industrial action which will be taking place Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teacher pay working, and not because of any issues at our school.

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for both of these days.

How will strike action affect Kea School

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. This means that those teachers involved in the action will not teach their class(es) or undertake any other duties on a strike day.

It is therefore incumbent upon me to consider the impact that industrial action will have on the operation of the school. One of the key issues is to assess whether there are sufficient staff available for the school to remain open, or partially open, during a strike.

To determine whether this school can remain fully or partially open, a detailed risk assessment has been conducted. This considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

I am sharing information about next week's strike.

Thursday 27 April

The school will be **open** to the following students.

- Years Foundation, 3, 4 and 5 (these classes will be taught by staff who usually teach them)
- Vulnerable pupils (places should be booked in advance via the link below)
 https://forms.office.com/e/NFTjHyB1d4
- Pupils whose parents are critical workers (both parents or lone parent should be critical workers and places should be booked in advance via the link below)
- School closed to all other pupils in 1, 2 and 6.



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Tuesday 2 May

The school will be **open** to the following students.

- Years 4 and 5 (these classes will be taught by staff who usually teach them)
- Vulnerable pupils (places should be booked in advance via the link below) https://forms.office.com/e/NFTjHyB1d4
- Pupils whose parents are critical workers (both parents or lone parent should be critical workers and places should be booked in advance via the link below)
- School closed to all other pupils in Year Foundation, 1, 2, 3 and 6.

Children of Critical workers and vulnerable students

Pupils will be supervised completing work in a classroom or the ICT via the government-backed website 'Oak National Academy' in line with their normal timetabled lessons. Children may also complete homework and should ensure they have a book to read. The students will be supervised by non-teaching members of staff and there will be no direct teaching during the day. Students will be given breaktimes and lunchtimes in line with their normal timetable.

The links to Oak National Academy can be found below, and this work can also be completed at home.

All subjects by key stage - Oak National Academy (thenational.academy)

General arrangements - All Pupils

Carrie Hunkin

Pupils attending school should wear their normal school uniform or PE kit if it is their PE day. Lunchtime will operate in the normal way. There will be no lunchtime or after school clubs that day.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A national strike by teachers is *very* unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the days that they are on strike.

Yours sincerely

Katherine Hunkin Headteacher