



Eastbrook Primary Academy
Interim Headteacher : Mrs N Naylor
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26th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wednesday 1st February 2023

As mentioned in my email on Friday 20th January 2023, the National Education Union (NEU) have decided to take strike action, with the first day of strikes happening on Wednesday 1st February 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute with the government over teachers' pay and not because of any dispute at our school.

We are keen to avoid disruption for you and for our pupils, but if we are to remain open, we must ensure the impact of the strike does not compromise the health and safety of our pupils. To ensure this, we have carried out a full risk assessment and taken account of guidance from the Department for Education about how we should prioritise places for pupils.

Our priority is to keep the school open for all children, however, following the risk assessment, I am writing to inform you that the school **on Wednesday 1st February will be partially open** to children based on the following criteria:

1. Children with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP)
2. Vulnerable pupils as defined by the government
3. Critical workers as defined by the government

For other pupils, we are sadly unable to open the school as we will not have the resources needed to run the school safely and effectively and I am sorry for any disruption that this will cause.

Due to the ratio of staff and pupils, we can only have a maximum number of 125 pupils in school on this day. Therefore, we can only accommodate 99 of children for critical worker spaces as other places have been allocated based on criteria 1 and 2.

We kindly ask that if you require a space for your child as you are a critical worker and you are unable to find suitable childcare for this day, please complete the link below:

[Critical Worker Form](#)

The link will need to be completed by Monday 30th, by 12noon. If you are not able to complete this form online but wish to request a Critical Worker space for your child, please speak to a member of staff in the school office who will provide a paper copy.

If the school exceeds the number of critical workers requiring a space on this day, then it will be based on a first come, first served basis.

We will confirm who has been given a critical worker space on Monday 30th January 2023, in the afternoon.

If your child does have a space on Wednesday 1st February 2023

As per the government guidance, the school will be permitted to move off timetable and plan a day of exciting activities for the children who will be in school. Timings for the school day will remain the same with the gates opening at 8.40am (for an 8.50 registration) and school finishing at 3pm. On this day, the children can wear non-school uniform. Lunch will remain the same as any other day in school.

Breakfast club and after school club will be available for those children in school on the day.

Further Proposed Strike Days

I will inform you as soon as possible regarding the situation for the school in advance of the other dates when strike action is planned. The next date will be **Thursday 2 March**, followed by **Wednesday 15 March** and **Thursday 16 March**.

I understand that this situation is challenging and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. The decision to take strike action will not have been taken lightly by any member of staff. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at office@eastbrook-academy.org

Finally, I would like to thank you in advance for your support,

Best wishes,

Mrs Naylor

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