

27 June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

National Education Union - strike action for teachers Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July 2023

As you may have seen, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The next scheduled strike sessions are Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July.

This action is not against Outwood Academy Redcar itself but is part of national industrial action organised by the trade unions about salary negotiations with the Department for Education. Neither the Outwood Grange Academies Trust Board nor myself as Head of School are legally allowed to close the academy in sympathy with the strike, and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the health and safety of our students. The academy will only close (partially or fully) if, in our opinion and following a full risk assessment, it is not safe to remain open.

Due to the number of staff taking action, we have made the difficult decision to close the academy on both 5th and 7th July to all, apart from students in **Year 10** who will be expected to attend as normal.

Whilst the academy will be closed to the majority of Year 7-9 students, online learning resources via Google Classroom, Sparx and Seneca will be available to all students and students will be expected to complete the work set. If access to ICT at home is an issue please contact us on the enquiries email (enquiries@redcar.outwood.com).

Students not in the academy and in receipt of free school meals may attend between 12pm and 12.30pm via main reception for their lunch. You can reserve your lunch [here](#).

On Thursday 6th July and from Monday 10th July, the academy will be open as normal to all students and should arrive ready for the usual 8.25am start.

As we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to fully close may have to be taken at the last minute. However, every effort will be made to give notice - at the latest by the day before.

In order to ensure that we can communicate any changes to these plans at short notice; which may include on the day itself, we are asking parents/carers to ensure that we hold up to date emergency contact details. If you do need to make any changes, please send to our enquiries email. We will always endeavour to minimise disruption as much as possible. We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption but we want to give you this advance notice and thank you for your patience and understanding at this time.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "L Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

Mr Lee Johnson
Head of School