

24 February 2023

## Planned Strike Action - Update

Dear Families

You may be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union has declared strike action. The second day will take place on 2 March 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government and not because of any issues at our school.

As you may appreciate, we have some indication of the numbers of staff that are striking. We have considered all factors including the fact that some staff may be ill on the day and/or on training events or require dependency care for their small children that may be asked to learn from home. We have been liaising with our staff union representatives in school and have agreed on the following for the **2 March 2023**:

Orleans Park School as a site will not be available to most students on 2 March 2023. The school site will be open to key students and Years 12 and 13 only. Year 12 and 13 will have lessons available periods 2, 3 and 4. Students can opt to stay onsite to study beyond this if they wish. The cafe in the Sixth form will be open. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day unless you have been individually invited as a key student. All other year groups will have a remote learning offer for the day.

We have not taken this decision lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and feel that we would be unable to provide this with the staff we have available.

Teachers that are not striking or not absent for any other reason will be teaching Year 12 and 13 lessons from Period 2 onwards. The site is available for Year 12 and 13 students from 9am. Remote learning will be available from Period 2 onwards for Years 7-11. Teachers that are not striking, will be in school delivering remote learning. Where a teacher is not available, there will be an alternative offer of either a self-directed lesson that students should access via their Google Classroom or a revision lesson for Year 11 students. There will be detailed instructions for students in their google year group classroom on how to access the lessons, however below is an overview for families.



Lessons will start from Period 2. Students will be able to access their remote learning via Google Classroom for each subject they have on the day.

All live lessons can be accessed by clicking on the Google Meet link in the box on the top of their Google Classroom for each subject. Students will need a device to access this. If students do not have access to a device, we ask that you contact their Head of Year to try and support you with getting one. Students should have their microphone and camera turned off when they enter the Google Meet; their teacher will advise them when they can turn their microphone on. Students can communicate with their teacher via the chat function or being asked to unmute by their teacher. Students are expected to demonstrate positive behaviour in their live lesson or they will be removed from the lesson and contact home will be made. Teachers will take the register for the classes at the beginning of the lesson and attendance will be tracked.

Where a student has been invited into school for the day, the expectation is that they will attend school. Individual letters will be sent home separately to those families.

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, you will receive a voucher from us for the day which you can redeem. Students in school will have an offer from the canteen.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child and that they will experience some disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please email [reception@orleanspark.school](mailto:reception@orleanspark.school).

Yours faithfully

Kathy Pacey  
Headteacher

