

26th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

**National Education Union - strike action for teachers**

<b>1 February (whole country)</b>	<b>28 February (Northern, North West, Yorks &amp; Humber)</b>	<b>15 March (whole country)</b>	<b>16 March (whole country)</b>
---------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

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 first date scheduled is Wednesday 01 February. The other three dates are Tuesday 28 February, Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March but we will update you of the plans closer to those dates as the Secretary of State is meeting with trade unions to try to resolve the outstanding issues.

**Whilst we have been informed of these proposed dates, and we are informing you of them so you can plan your own arrangements, please presume that the school will be open to all until we confirm otherwise ahead of each date; this will be via our normal text service.**

This action is not against Outwood Primary Academy Ledger Lane 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 Principal 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 partially close the academy on the first day (01 February) to pupils in the following classes: Rainbows, 1EB, 2SB, 3WP, 3EH, 4VP/KW and 5LS. All other classes in school, including Nursery, will remain open unless we inform you otherwise nearer the time.

Whilst the academy will be closed to those pupils in the above classes, online learning via Google Classroom will be available to these students and they will be expected to complete the work set.

For those children attending school as normal, lunch will be provided in the usual way. For those children in receipt of free school meals and whose class is not open, a 'grab bag' can be collected between 11am – 12pm from the school office. **If you are in receipt of free school meals (please note that this does not include those in receipt of universal free school meals), and wish to collect a packed lunch on this day, please contact the school office to order a grab bag.**

Please note that CJs before and after school childcare will be open as normal for those children attending school.

As you can appreciate, we may not know until very late the exact number of staff that will be available to work, and the decision to close more classes may have to be taken at the last minute. Every effort will be made to give you as much notice as we can however, please ensure that you have a contingency plan should such an event occur.

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 email address for this purpose [enquiries@ledgerlane.outwood.com](mailto:enquiries@ledgerlane.outwood.com). 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 in advance for your patience and understanding at this time. We will update you again about the plan for the academy before the next proposed strike date.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs R Skirrow  
**Principal**