

13th March 2023



PARK HALL
ACADEMY

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ASSOCIATE HEADTEACHER: DR T CLOSE

Letter to parents regarding industrial action

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Following my previous communication on Friday, I am writing to you to explain our school arrangements for Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. It looks increasingly likely that the planned industrial action will go ahead on Wednesday and Thursday. I would like to stress again that this strike action is in relation to a national dispute around teacher and school staff pay. This is not a school-based issue. We continue to hope that the dispute will be resolved, but we must make plans in case the industrial action has to continue.

What will happen at the school on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March?

We plan to follow the same routine as we did last time. This is because we are striving to minimise disruption for those students who will be sitting external exams in the summer.

Yr 11, Yr12 and Yr13: School will remain open to all students in Yr 11, Yr12 and Yr13 as normal until 3.15pm. Students are expected to attend lessons in person as normal. **Year 11 students are expected to arrive at 8.30 am as normal on Wednesday.**

Yrs 7-10: Lessons will be online using your usual school Microsoft Teams account from 9am until 3.15pm. If your teacher does not start a live lesson you should complete the work that has been set on **EduLink** for your year group. Work on **EduLink** may not match your individual timetable.

Please have a look below at the attached visual below that summarises our plans

School identified vulnerable students: We contacted you previously to discuss whether you would like your child to undertake silent, supervised study in school. The arrangements remain the same. Please let us know if there is any change.

If you have any issues about getting online and/ or passwords then please contact your child's head of year below:

Year 7	Mr D Cox dcox@parkhall.org 0121 748 0451
Year 8	Mrs C Wakefield cwakefield@parkhall.org 0121 748 0464
Year 9	Miss L Traynor ltraynor@parkhall.org 0121 748 0460
Year 10	Mr A Williams awilliams@parkhall.org 0121 748 0409



Why are we not opening to everyone?

Experience from the previous strike days has highlighted the approximate number of staff we can expect to be in attendance on both days. Student safety is of the utmost importance, and we must be sure we can keep our students safe on site with reduced staffing numbers.

Lastly, we want to take this opportunity to reiterate that your child's education is important to *all* staff at Park Hall Academy. We hope that by putting in place these contingency plans, including remote learning, we can limit any impact the industrial action could have to your child's education.

Transport Strikes:

We are also aware that, on Thursday 16th March there is a potential that railway and bus services may be disrupted due to strike action. We have seen media reports that suggest that bus strike action could be ongoing from 16th March. Therefore, we urge families to seek alternative transport arrangements if at all possible, especially as the bus services may be disrupted over a longer period of time.

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you, and to your child's education, especially in the light of further recent disruption caused by the weather. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, but ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

Yours faithfully



Dr T. Close
Associate Headteacher