



Friars Primary Foundation School
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29th June 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Notification of partial closure on Friday 7th July 2023.

We have been informed by the **NEU Trade Union** of its proposal to take more strike action both nationally and regionally over a number of days.

The next days of strike action by NEU teacher members are planned to take place on Wednesday 5th July and **Friday 7th July**. The NEU is in dispute with the Secretary of State for Education with regards to their failure to ensure enough money is available in school budgets to pay a fully-funded increase in pay for teachers which at least matches inflation, and which begins to restore lost pay.

As Headteacher, I have assessed the impact on the school of the strike action that is planned to take place. Teachers at Friars are NOT striking on Wednesday 5th July, so that beach trips and our residential can continue.

The school will be open to the following pupils:

Friday 7th July open to Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils.

Please note the NEU could cancel strike action depending on the outcome of talks with the government. We would then be open as normal.

I can also open one group of children of mixed ages whose parents are critical workers and those with EHCPs. You must contact the school office to apply for one of these limited spaces by Tuesday 4th July. You may be asked to provide proof of employment.

This decision has not been taken lightly, and whilst I regret needing to take this action, it is done to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils. For this same reason, if teachers in the open classes are unwell, I may need to close classes at short notice. Should there be further strike action, I will notify you of any arrangements that are put in place as soon as possible.

Those year groups who are not in school can continue their learning using Mathletics, Reading Eggs (Year R, 1 & 2), Timestable Rockstars (Year 3-5), Homework Projects and reading their class library or home books.

I apologise sincerely for the difficulties these arrangements will cause to parents and carers, but unfortunately these circumstances are beyond our control.

If you have any queries or concerns, such as if your child does not have access to technology for their home learning, then please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Wratten
Headteacher

Achieving excellence in a happy, nurturing and safe environment
Compassion, Creativity, Endeavour, Resilience, Respect, Responsibility