

Head of School: Richard Rushton

Friday 24 February 2023

Dear parent/carers,

I wrote to you recently to inform you that the National Education Union has declared strike action across a number of days in February and March. The upcoming dates for this are:

- Wednesday 1 March
- Wednesday 15 March
- Thursday 16 March

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our academy.

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on these dates. We're considering several options, including keeping our academies open, partial opening, remote learning and closing the academy.

While we will do all we can to remain open, you might wish to consider what alternative childcare arrangements you could put in place for these dates should the academy have to close.

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our academy community continue to treat each other with respect. Olive Academies remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you of the final arrangements on Monday 27 February. However, please be aware that teaching staff are not obliged to notify us of their intention to strike until the day. This may mean that we need to change the arrangements that we share with you on Monday 27 February. You will be notified by 8am on Wednesday 1 March if the arrangements that we previously issued need to change. This notification will be added to our website (<https://apnenevalley.oliveacademies.org.uk>) and also sent by text message so please ensure you look out for this.

If you have any questions, please contact me on richard.rushton@oliveacademies.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Richard Rushton
Head of School