



St Andrew the Apostle

Greek Orthodox School

10 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Forthcoming NEU Industrial Action on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2023

I am writing regarding the forthcoming regional industrial action by the National Education Union on Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March 2023, which you will be aware of from my previous letters and the national media coverage. The purpose of this letter is to set out the school's plans for these dates, assuming that the strike goes ahead, in line with the notice the NEU has given. As you may know, the NEU is striking but the other large teaching union NASUWT is not, which means that, we will have some staff available for work, and some not. We have therefore had to make plans to accommodate significant uncertainty.

Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March

Students in Year 13, 12, 11 and 10 must attend school on these dates.

Students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 should stay at home on these dates. Students in these year groups will be able to access some taught lessons online from teachers who are in school and available for work. The school's leadership team is re-issuing some generic tasks (attached to the email with this letter) which students can do when they have a lesson where the teacher is not available. As with the previous day of industrial action, we will not know until the day of the strike which lessons will be running and which will not. We are therefore asking students to log into Microsoft Teams at 8.55am on the morning of 15 March 2023 (there will be no online tutor time). Students will see calendared invites in Teams for the online lessons that will be running that day. They can then plan to complete generic tasks around the lessons they will have. Unavoidably, some students will have more taught lessons and some fewer.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, we will provide you with a meal voucher.

It is important that students in Years 7-9 are all able to access their Microsoft Teams account to engage with the online offer.

We would therefore ask parents/carers of any students who are less familiar with Microsoft Teams to please watch this introductory video with your children to familiarise yourself with the system ahead of the 2 March:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qx8xHpRMFHU>

The login information for Teams is the student's school email address and the password they use to login to any device at school. For example, 22Smith.P@standrewtheapostle.org.uk (year they started, surname.initial@standrewtheapostle.org.uk) Students should see their classes when they log into Teams ahead of 2 March (though they will not yet have invites for lessons on 2 March) – if they don't they need to notify us so we can rectify this.

There is a known issue with using Teams in Safari (Mac Users). For a resolution to this known problem please use the following link: [Safari browser support - Microsoft Support](#). If you have issues with accessing Teams through an internet browser you may wish to download the application: [Download Microsoft Teams Desktop and Mobile Apps | Microsoft Teams](#)



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If students have any difficulties logging into Teams they should let us know ahead of the 2 March so that we can help them. If you would like any advice or support with accessing Microsoft Teams please contact us via admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk We anticipate that there will be a lot of pressure on the platform on 2 March due to the industrial action and we hope that it will be robust enough to cope.

Students using the Teams platform are reminded that they should be on mute, with their camera off, during lessons, unless asked to contribute by the teacher. Students accessing online lessons should be appropriately attired and ideally in a communal space of the home with their device (not their bedroom). Please also see attached PDF relating to expectations.

Please note that these arrangements only apply to industrial action planned for the 15 and 16 March 2023. Currently there are no other strike days planned.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school.

Yours sincerely,

A Easton
Executive Headteacher