



In all things faithful

**St Damian's RC Science College**

Lees Road  
Ashton-under-Lyne  
OL6 8BH

**Tel:** 0161 330 5974

**Fax:** 0161 331 4744

**Email:** [admin@stdamians.co.uk](mailto:admin@stdamians.co.uk)

**Web:** <http://www.stdamians.co.uk/>

**Follow us on Twitter:** @StDamiansRCSC

**Find us on Facebook**

**Headteacher**

Mr S Logue BA (Hons), M.Ed., NPQH

25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Strike Action Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February**

I am writing to you to share information about the planned teacher strikes over the next couple of months. As you may know from the national media, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced strike action in the North West and England on the following dates: **1st February; 28th February; and 15<sup>th</sup> and 16th March 2023.**

This is not action against the school but is about concerns over teachers' pay and working conditions and the funding levels for schools. This is a nationally balloted industrial action aimed at the working conditions of all members of our industry. This is alongside other national industries strike action which is on-going, e.g. postal workers, education, NHS, driving examiners, nurses, emergency services, legal profession, etc.

All schools will take different approaches dependent upon the number of NEU members within school. As such, there will, inevitably, be variance in arrangements from school to school because of this. I have been informed at this stage that a significant number of teachers are joining the strike on this day. Based on this evidence it is highly likely that St Damian's will not be open fully as per normal operating practices. Indeed, there is a high possibility that the school will be **closed for all students** except those who are most vulnerable. In essence, this means that the school is open for all students in all years who are vulnerable. This includes students on EHCP, LAC, medical needs and where safeguarding is identified by school.

I must make it clear however, that these plans may change nearer the time, dependent on any new information I receive and/or if there are any changes to the national position of the NEU.

Some points:

- Parents of children who are eligible for **Free School Meal** who are not in school on 1 February will receive a £3 voucher via mobile phone.
- Teachers who are *not striking* will put work on **Teams** for their classes that day.

As arrangements are provisional at this stage, I will inform parents of any developments right up to and including 1<sup>st</sup> February.

I apologise for any inconvenience caused but my main priority is the health and safety of all students and staff. The main factor within such a risk is the significant reduction in staff availability to support the safe, smooth and efficient running of the school.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mr Logue  
Headteacher

St. Damian's RC Science College