

June 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### **National Education Union - strike action for teachers 5 & 7 July 2023**

As you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The next set of dates for strike action are 5 and 7 July 2023.

This action is not against Outwood Academy City Fields itself but is part of national industrial action organised by the trade unions about salary negotiations with the Department for Education.

Neither the Outwood Grange Academies Trust Board nor myself as Principal are legally allowed to close the academy in sympathy with the strike, and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the health and safety of our students. The academy will only close (partially or fully) if, in our opinion and following a full risk assessment, it is not safe to remain open.

Due to the number of staff taking action, we have made the difficult decision to close the academy on the 5 and 7 July to all students apart from:

- 5 July - Year 10** and those who are classified as vulnerable students
- 7 July - Year 7 & Year 10** and those who are classified as vulnerable students

**\*\*NOTE** - 7 July Year 10 are on a trip to Wakefield College - please follow the guidance in the trip letter.

The academy will be open from 8 am for a 8.25 am start in lessons.

Whilst the academy will be closed to some students, online learning via Google Classroom will be available to all students and students will be expected to complete the work set.

Students in all year groups in receipt of free school meals (FSM) may attend between 12.30 pm and 1 pm for their lunch. **NOTE, ALL ACADEMIES WILL BE OPEN FOR FSM STUDENTS TO COLLECT GRAB BAGS AS A MINIMUM.**

We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption but we want to give you this advance notice and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding at this time.

Definition of Vulnerable children -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

We will be in touch before the end of day Monday 3 July 2023 for those we feel fall into the vulnerable category. If your student is in Years 7-9 and we have not been in touch before end of day Monday, but you feel your student should attend, please email [enquiries@cityfields.outwood.com](mailto:enquiries@cityfields.outwood.com)

Yours faithfully



Michelle Colledge-Smith  
**Principal**