



23rd June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We write to give you notice that the NEU have called two further strike dates for Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July and this is likely to cause disruption to the normal operation of our schools. We are also of the understanding that if pay negotiations are resumed and a new offer is forthcoming, the strikes may be suspended.

Teachers do not take these decisions lightly. In our conversations with schools, it has been clearly explained that teachers are striking for multiple reasons; to protect pay and condition in a cost-of-living crisis, to help ensure there are sufficient teachers to fill vacancies in a recruitment crisis and to ensure that pay awards are fully funded in order to avoid cuts. In all cases they are acutely aware and sorry for the disruption that this causes their pupils and families but the decision is taken to protect the long-term sustainability and quality of education.

It is also the case that senior leaders in all our schools are in a difficult position, both wanting to support the profession and those on strike, whilst at the same time minimising impact where possible. Schools are affected in different ways but have to comply with strike regulations and staff decisions. This means that unfortunately some classes/year groups are affected in an uneven way. The Trust supports schools to ensure that all potential mitigations have been considered and closures or partial closures are avoided where possible. We can assure you that Headteachers and their leadership teams are making every effort to mitigate the impact and we are pleased that Trust schools have been able to avoid full closures throughout the strike period.

We are able to confirm that the schools will be prioritising resources to ensure that Year 7 induction days at Bracknell secondary schools will continue as planned on the 5th and 6th July.

It is also important to note that all 4 national unions are in the process of balloting members for strike action in September 2023, this will include unions representing Headteachers and senior staff. In the event that the ballots return a strike mandate, parents and carers should be aware of the potential for more wide spread disruption. We hope that an agreement can be reached before the situation is prolonged and deteriorates further.

Your individual schools will provide further information as soon as it is available. We thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours faithfully



Bob Elsey
CEO Corvus Learning Trust