

08 March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Strike action by members of the National Education Union

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the National Education Union (NEU), one of the main teaching trade unions. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

There were three national and one regional day strikes planned. The strike days that are likely to affect schools in this area are:

- Wednesday 15 March 2023
- Thursday 16 March 2023

Elmgrove will be PARTIALLY OPEN on WEDNESDAY 15th March and THURSDAY 16th March.

The NEU has posted a document for parents, carers and grandparents that explains their reasons for taking strike action. It can be found at <https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view> if you wish to read it.

How will strike action affect Elmgrove?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. This means that those teachers involved in the action will not teach their class(es) or undertake any other duties on a strike day.

It is therefore incumbent upon me to consider the impact that industrial action will have on the operation of the school. One of the key issues is to assess whether there are sufficient staff available for the school to remain open, or partially open, during a strike.

To determine whether this school can remain fully or partially open, a detailed risk assessment has been conducted. This considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

Most of our teachers are NEU members and so can be presumed to strike next week. The school will therefore need to partially close to remain within safe adult: pupil ratios.



Elmgrove Primary School and Nursery
Kenmore Avenue
Kenton
Harrow
HA3 8LU



020 8909 2992

020 8909 1477

office@elmgrove.harrow.sch.uk

www.elmgrove.harrow.sch.uk



On Wednesday 15th March the school will be:

Open only to the following classes, but closed to all other pupils

Classes Open ALL DAY 8.45am -3.15pm

Nursery Tingatinga and Hepworth
Reception Monet
Reception Kusama
1 Hunter
1 Blake
1 Kunmanara
1 Van Gogh
2 Carle
2 Goldsworthy
2 Kandinsky
3 Rousseau
4 Martin
4 Hadid
5 Matisse

Classes open afternoon only from 12.45pm- 3.15pm *Hot Lunch will be in school

R O'Keeffe
2 Lowry
3 Hokusai

Some vulnerable pupils will be in school and they will be contacted separately. All other classes will be closed all day.

On Thursday 16th March 2023

Classes open ALL DAY 8.45am -3.15pm

Nursery Tingatinga and Hepworth
Reception Monet
Reception Kusama
2 Carle
2 Goldsworthy
3 Rousseau
4 Martin
5 Matisse

Classes open 8.45am -12.15pm

Reception Hockney
Reception O'Keeffe

These Reception classes should be collected from the office at 12.15pm after they have eaten their lunch.

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Unfortunately, we do not have capacity to cater for Key Workers.

Remote learning

Children will continue to have access to all their online platforms BugClub, MyMaths, Accelerated Reader, Spelling Shed etc. However, please note that teachers who are on strike **will not** prepare or set work for pupils on strike days.

You make use of some of these websites also:

Oak Academy - <https://classroom.thenational.academy/>

White Rose Maths - <https://whiterosemaths.com/>

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

PE with Jo Wicks - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8uBfGUEk5c>

Times Tables Rock Stars - <https://trockstars.com/>

Free School Meals

All pupils who are entitled to a free school meal as they have registered for the pupil premium and whose classes will not be open on school on the day of the strike will be given a packed lunch on Tuesday 14th March to take home for the following days. If your child is in school for part of the day they **will receive** their meal in school.

Additionally:

- There will be no after school clubs that day (refunds or additional dates will be processed)
- Magna breakfast and after school club will operate as usual
- Please cancel your lunch bookings

School will open as normal on Friday 17th March

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A national strike by teachers is very unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the days that they are on strike.

Yours sincerely

S Neary

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