

3rd July 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

Re: National Education Union (NEU) – Proposed National Strike Action

As you may be aware, on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July, members of the National Educational Union (NEU) will be participating in a national strike.

The school is using the information it has currently to make a decision in the interests of, and for the safety of, pupils and students, in terms of staff ratios.

Wednesday 5th July

- Currently, the Primary School, Secondary School and Sixth Form are planning to be open for pupils and students in all year groups **except Year 4, Year 5 and Year 9 on Wednesday 5th July**. Pupils in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 9 are to remain at home on Wednesday 5th July. We do recognise that staff participating in strike action are only required to inform school on the day. Given this, our plans may change on the day.
- Pupils in Year 4, Year 5 and Year 9 will be provided with work via Google Classroom on Wednesday 5th July.
- If your child is in Year 4, Year 5 or Year 9 and is entitled to a free school meal, they will be entitled to a free school meal 'lunch bag' which can be collected from Main Reception on Wednesday 5th July. You must inform us if you intend to collect a lunch bag by email to Lnewton@qegsblackburn.com by 10.00am, Wednesday 5th July. The email must state the child's name and Form Group.
- Pupils and students in Reception to Year 3, Years 6 to 8 and Year 10 are to attend school on Wednesday 5th July as normal.

Friday 7th July

- Currently, the Primary School, Secondary School and Sixth Form are planning to be open for all children in all year groups on Friday 7th July, however our plans may change leading up to or on the day.

We will only know for definite when staff arrive for work on both mornings if we can remain partially open on the Wednesday and fully open on the Friday, as planned. Should your child arrive at school on Wednesday and Friday morning at the normal start time and we are in a position where we will be unable to remain partially or fully open we will notify all parents/carers affected by email by 9.15am. It is therefore imperative we have the correct email address for you (we should have a minimum of two on our system to use as contacts). If you are not currently receiving the regular emails from school (at least one per month), please contact reception@qegsblackburn.com with your child's name, form group and current email address.

Pupils would need to be collected by a parent/carer or adult with authorisation to collect. Should you require us to keep your child for a period of time whilst you arrange collection you will need to notify school via email to Lnewton@qegsblackburn.com. This needs to contain the pupils/students full name and year group. All pupils/students will be required to leave the site by 9.45am. The school will be unable to keep your children for the full day so you will need to have arrangements in place, should the worst happen, and we are unable to remain partially or fully open as planned. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Lnewton@qegsblackburn.com.

Please do not assume if your child's class or year group has been asked to stay at home, or is sent home on the day, that this means a particular teacher is taking part in strike action as there are various reasons why a staff member may be absent. Decisions have been made looking at overall staffing rather than particular classes/year groups.

For any future days of industrial action, we would look to rotate year groups to attend school on those days if we are not able to fully open.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gammon', written in a cursive style.

Mrs CY Gammon