



The Astley Cooper School

Aspiration, Determination, Integrity

April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will be aware from the news, the National Education Union (NEU) have announced their intention to proceed with additional formal Industrial Action on two separate days during the Summer term –

Thursday 27 April and Tuesday 2 May.

The industrial action is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over the level of funding schools receive and terms and conditions for staff. The disagreement is not with The Astley Cooper School but we will be affected by the industrial action on the dates above.

We have a large number of staff who are members of the NEU who will potentially take action and could decide that they will support the industrial action and make themselves unavailable for work on all or some of the identified days. Colleagues do not have to share their intention with the school which will make it difficult to safely plan our provision for 950 students.

I would like to share with you as early as possible our plans for students here at The Astley Cooper School to allow parents and carers enough time to plan family requirements. Please be advised that these arrangements are subject to change if further negotiations are reached. If your child is in Year 10, 11 or 13, please see the schedule below. Students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 12 will be at home and should follow their timetable using google classroom.

I am mindful of the disruption that this causes to all students, however, our Year 11 and Year 13 students are in their final term before completing their exams and I will, therefore, endeavour to maintain routine and practice for these cohorts. Additionally, I would like to offer Year 10 students' periods of time to attend school.

Thursday 27 April

Break 10.05 and Lunch 12.35

Year 11 and Year 13 attend school all day

Year 10 arrive at 12.35. Attend lunch, P4 and P5

Tuesday 2 May

Break 10.05 and Lunch 12.35

Year 11 and Year 13 attend school all day

Year 10 arrive at 12.35. Attend lunch, P4 and P5

Vulnerable Students - Students with a social worker are permitted to attend school, Mr Daddow will contact these parents/carers to discuss the provision for the day.



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Free School Meals - A packed lunch (baguette, biscuit and drink) can be pre-ordered and collected from the Office at 3.15pm on Wednesday 26 April and at 9.30 on Tuesday 2 May. Please complete this [form](#) by the end of Tuesday 25 April for both days if you are eligible and want to take up this option.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice and/or that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating and I ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. The Astley Cooper School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact us at admin@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Kind regards

Sam Orsborne
Headteacher



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