



The Astley Cooper School

Aspiration, Determination, Integrity

June 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 – **Wednesday 5 July and Friday 7 July.**

The dispute is with the Secretary of State for Education with regards to the NEU view that there has been a *'Failure to provide a fully funded above-inflation pay rise (as measured by September 2022 RPI). A fully funded pay rise is one that is funded by additional resources sufficient to provide the above-inflation pay rise' (NEU).* 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 our students.

We have reviewed the effect and related health and safety of the last day of strike action, including that there are two school trips running during this time, and in view of this have decided that all year 10 students should attend school using the timetable below while year 12 students are encouraged to make use of supervised study in school and will be taught timetabled lessons where possible. Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will be at home and should follow their timetable using google classroom. Please be advised that these arrangements are subject to change if further negotiations are reached.

I am mindful of the disruption that this causes to all students, however our Year 10 students are completing their mock examinations and I will endeavour to ensure these take place.

Year 10 timetable

Wednesday 5 July

8.30 – Registration
9.00 – 10.00 – Maths lesson
10.00 – 10.30 – Break
10.30 – 12.30 – Science mock examination
12.30 – 1.00 – Lunch
1.00 – Home

Friday 7 July

8.30 – Registration
9.00 – 11.00 – Maths mock examination
11.00 – 11.30 – Break
11.30 – Home

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 Tuesday 4 July at 3.15 and on Thursday 6 July at 3.15. Please complete this [form](#) by the end of Monday 3 July 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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