

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS27th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Last week I wrote to inform you that members of the National Education Union had voted for industrial action which will impact Bristol Metropolitan Academy. These strikes – the result of a pay dispute between union members and government – are scheduled for February 1st, March 2nd, and provisionally March 15th and 16th.

This will result in disruption to the normal routine, and scheduled lessons will be unable to go ahead. As ever, pupil wellbeing remains our priority, and careful risk assessments have been carried out to assess which lessons and activities can safely continue. I can now share our plans for February 1st

At Bristol Metropolitan Academy, the following will apply:

- Year 7 to Year 10 will remain at home for Wednesday 1st February (BMA Closed to Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10)
- Year 11 will attend the Academy as normal (BMA Open to Year 11). Year 11 are being prioritised on this occasion, in line with the Government's wishes, due to the proximity of public exams for these students.

In addition I can confirm the following arrangements are being made:

- Any student in Year 7 to Year 10 entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) on Wednesday 1st February will be able to collect a grab bag packed lunch at the end of the school day on Tuesday 31st January to take home with them.
For Year 11 students canteen facilities will be available as normal on Wednesday 1st February.
- For Year 7 to Year 10 students work will be available via 'The Oak National Academy'. This is a government funded repository of online lessons across all ages and all subjects set up as part of the covid response. It has been carried on as part of contingency planning and is a good resource for independent study. [It is available here](#)
Some staff may also set some activities via Show My Homework so students may want to check in on their profile. As teachers are under no obligation to inform me ahead of the day of their intentions to strike or not I cannot guarantee individual work being set which is why we are recommending Oak Academy as a resource.

Please note these arrangements may not be the same on subsequent strike dates. However, we will continue to work closely with our staff union representatives to keep up-to-date with the situation, and I will inform you of our plans for those days as soon as possible.

I am sure we all hope for a swift resolution to this dispute which will satisfy all parties. Until then, we recognise and respect the right of Bristol Met teaching staff to take part in industrial action and ask that all members of our community continue to treat each other with respect. And while I understand this situation may be frustrating, your continued support for our school at this time is appreciated.

I do hope this has answered your questions and will allow you to plan ahead for any disruption. However, should you have any further questions, do please contact the school through the usual email of info@bristolmet.net and we will endeavour to provide answers in further updates.

Yours sincerely



Cameron Shaw
Principal