

Wednesday 25th January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **National Education Union - strike action for teachers**

As you may have seen, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The first date scheduled is **Wednesday 01 February**.

The other three dates are:

- **Tuesday 28 February**
- **Wednesday 15 March**
- **Thursday 16 March**

We will update you of the plans closer to those dates as the Secretary of State is meeting with trade unions to try to resolve the outstanding issues.

This action is not against Outwood Academy Danum itself but is part of national industrial action organised by the trade unions about salary negotiations with the Department for Education.

Neither the Outwood Grange Academies Trust Board nor myself as Principal are legally allowed to close the academy in sympathy with the strike, and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the health and safety of our students. The academy will only close (partially or fully) if, in our opinion and following a full risk assessment, it is not safe to remain open.

Due to the number of staff taking action, **we have made the difficult decision to close the academy on the first day (01 February) to all students apart from Year 11 and Year 13 who will be expected to attend as normal/with the exception of any vulnerable students who can attend as normal.** We will be in touch with parents and carers to confirm their intention to send pupils to school on these days. Vulnerable children can be defined as children who are in need, under a child protection order, have an EHCP, or who are looked after. If you deem your child is vulnerable, but does not come under this category, please contact us to request a place in our school provision of their day. We will update you again about the plan for the academy before the next proposed strike date.

Whilst the academy will be closed to some students, online learning via Google Classroom will be available to all students and students will be expected to complete the work set. Work set may not be following their usual timetable due to the fact that their teacher may be on strike for this day. Children who have difficulty accessing online work can be provided with a paper copy. Please let school know via [enquiries@danum.outwood.com](mailto:enquiries@danum.outwood.com) if this is required.

Students in all year groups in receipt of free school meals may attend between 12.00pm and 12.30pm to collect a grab bag for their lunch.

Please complete this form [here](#) if your child intends to collect a school lunch.

As we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to fully close may have to be taken at the last minute. However, every effort will be made to give notice - at the latest by the day before.

\*In order to ensure that we can communicate any changes to these plans at short notice; which may include on the day itself, we are asking parents/carers to ensure that we hold up to date emergency contact details. If you do need to make any changes, please send to our dedicated email address for this purpose [enquires@danum.outwood.com](mailto:enquires@danum.outwood.com). We will always endeavour to minimise disruption as much as possible.

We understand that there will be concerns about the disruption but we want to give you this advance notice and thank you in advance for your patience and understanding at this time.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Crane', written in a cursive style.

A.Crane  
**Principal**