

13 March, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

Strike Day Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March

I am writing to you to update you on the situation at Glebelands with regards to the planned industrial action by teaching colleagues from the NEU. This is scheduled to take place this week, on **Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March**. The action is nationwide and in response to:

- The pay increases to school staff not being fully-funded, so that school budgets are having to absorb and rebalance staff pay increases alongside hikes in energy costs, services and resources – a situation that is not sustainable.
- The real-terms erosion in teachers' pay and subsequent crisis in teacher recruitment and retention.

It is right that any colleague planning to strike are not compelled to make me aware of their intentions, although many colleagues have done so out of respect for parents and students to enable us to plan effectively and ensure that I am able to safely run the school.

I am afraid to say that having conducted an analysis of staff absence and risk assessment, we will only be able to partially open the school safely on these days. The implications for each year group are as follows:

Wednesday 15th March

Year 7 Students in school all day

Year 8 Students to work from home

Year 9 Students in school all day

Year 10 Students to work from home

Year 11 Students in school in the morning, go home at lunchtime to work from home

Thursday 16th March

Year 7 Students in to work from home

Year 8 Students in school all day

Year 9 Students to work from home

Year 10 Students in school all day

Year 11 Students in school in the morning, go home at lunchtime to work from home

Email: info@glebelands.surrey.sch.uk **Web:** www.glebelands.surrey.sch.uk





Students working from home will receive on-line lessons via TEAMS from their teachers as long as they are not striking or absent due to illness.

In order to access 'live' online lessons, students need a device and internet connection (preferably wifi). The lessons will be streamed via TEAMS using their student account. It is important to note these year groups have been selected as their lessons have been affected by staff on strike so not all lessons will be streamed.

If children are on site, then food service and buses will be available as normal.

On Wednesday, all students in Year 9 will require PE kit (including suitable footwear for the 3G pitch, see attached) as they will be doing PE in place of their modern foreign language lessons.

Similarly, **On Thursday, all students in Year 8 will require PE kit** (including suitable footwear for the 3G pitch – see attached) as they will be doing PE in place of their modern foreign language lessons.

Any Year 11 student who is unable to go home at lunchtime on either day is welcome to remain in school and work independently in the Hall.

Once again, I am very sorry about the disruption to you and your child's education. I understand it may be frustrating for you and I would ask for your continued forbearance during this difficult time. Presently there is no further strike days planned for the remainder of the academic year.

Kind regards

R Mitchell