



# St Andrew the Apostle

## Greek Orthodox School

29 June 23

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **NEU Industrial Action on Wednesday 5 and Friday 7 July 2023 and Staff Training Day Thursday 6 July**

I am writing regarding the forthcoming regional industrial action by the National Education Union next week. The purpose of this letter is to set out the school's plans for these dates. As you may know, the NEU is striking but the other large teaching union NASUWT is not, which means that we will have some staff available for work, and some not. We have therefore had to make plans to accommodate significant uncertainty. I am writing, too, to remind you that there will be a staff training day on Thursday 6 July. I appreciate that the combination of these dates may inconvenience some families and we are truly sorry for that: however, we will endeavour to keep the school open on both days albeit with some year groups needing to remain at home, as follows:

#### **Wednesday 5 July**

**Students in Years 12, 10 and 9 must attend school on these dates.**

**Students in Years 7 and 8 should stay at home on this date.**

#### **Thursday 6 July**

**ALL students to remain at home as this will be a staff training day.**

#### **Friday 7 July**

**Students in Years 8 and 7 must attend school on this date.**

**Students in Years 10 and 9 should stay at home on this date.**

**Students in the year groups who are at home on the Wednesday and/or Friday will be able to access some taught lessons online from teachers who are in school and available for work.** The school's leadership team will re-issue some generic tasks which students can do when they have a lesson where the teacher is not available. As with the previous day of industrial action, we will not know until the day of the strike which lessons will be running and which will not. We are therefore asking students to log into Microsoft Teams at 8.55am on the mornings of 5 and 7 July 2023 (there will be no online tutor time). Students will see calendared invites in Teams for the online lessons that will be running that day. They can then plan to complete generic tasks around the lessons they will have. Unavoidably, some students will have more taught lessons and some fewer. If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, we will provide you with a meal voucher.

It is important that students in Years 7-9 are all able to access their Microsoft Teams account to engage with the online offer.

We would therefore ask parents/carers of any students who are less familiar with Microsoft Teams to please watch this introductory video with your children to familiarise yourself with the system:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qx8xHpRMFHU>

The login information for Teams is the student's school email address and the password they use to login to any device at school. For example, [22Smith.P@standrewtheapostle.org.uk](mailto:22Smith.P@standrewtheapostle.org.uk) (year they started, [surname.initial@standrewtheapostle.org.uk](mailto:surname.initial@standrewtheapostle.org.uk))

There is a known issue with using Teams in Safari (Mac Users). For a resolution to this known problem please use the following link: [Safari browser support - Microsoft Support](#). If you have issues with accessing Teams through an internet browser you may wish to download the application: [Download Microsoft Teams Desktop and Mobile Apps | Microsoft Teams](#)



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If students have any difficulties logging into Teams they should let us know as soon as possible so that we can help them. If you would like any advice or support with accessing Microsoft Teams please contact us via [admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk](mailto:admin@standrewtheapostle.org.uk).

**Students using the Teams platform are reminded that they should be on mute, with their camera off, during lessons, unless asked to contribute by the teacher. Students accessing online lessons should be appropriately attired and ideally in a communal space of the home with their device (not their bedroom). Please also see attached PDF relating to expectations.**

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school and sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Philip Hills  
Headteacher

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