

10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Strike Action – Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023

As you are aware there is further industrial strike action currently being planned for the **15th and 16th March 2023**. These further two days of strike action are following the National Education Union's (NEU) decision to vote in favour of taking industrial action nationally. We are writing to give you advance notice of our plans for these days.

Whilst there is a possibility that a decision might be made over the coming days to suspend this action, we have received feedback from parents/ carers that you would appreciate as much advance notice of our plans for these two dates as possible.

Further to the two previous strike days, we now have a better estimation of the extent of the industrial action in GFM schools. At this stage we need to inform you that, to ensure the health and safety of both our staff and students and given the uncertainty of our staffing levels, we will again need to restrict the number of students in school as follows:

Years 7 - 10

- **On both days Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will remain at home** to complete remote learning which is further detailed below.
- We will be providing a small provision for our **vulnerable learners** on site where they will be supported to access the resources available to all learners described below.
- Please complete this Google Form by Monday at 18:00 to request a place in this provision <https://forms.gle/widkSiWTsVvLQQzB7> . We will then be in contact with families on Tuesday to confirm which places are available.

Year 11

- We will be open to **Year 11** students. **Year 11 will be required to attend school**, in full uniform, **on both days**. Wednesday will run from 9:55 - 15:10 and Thursday from 9:55 - 14:10.
- Year 11 students will attend normal lessons where possible, following their usual timetable. Where teachers are not available, students will be able to complete revision activities under the supervision of other colleagues in a centrally staffed location. Students should attend their normal classrooms and if it is unstaffed they should go to the Main Hall study space.

The Footlights canteen will be open at lunchtime for those students attending school on both days. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals we will be emailing out a voucher to eligible parents of students for those year groups who will not be in school.

We understand this is likely to cause significant disruption to families, but we hope that by providing you with advance notice of arrangements, we will be able to minimise the inevitable impact this industrial action is likely to have.

These decisions are particularly difficult and we are pleased to be able to open to some of our learners. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students and feel that we would be unable to provide this if we remained fully open with the staff we are likely to have available.

We recognise the disruption to you and your child's education this may cause and thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Yours sincerely

The GFM Secondary Executive Team

Geoff Walls (Director of Schooling)

Nigel Matthias (Executive Headteacher)

Ryan Peet (Executive Headteacher)

Kerry Payne (Executive Headteacher - Headteacher Brune Park)

Christopher Willis (Executive Headteacher- Headteacher Bay House)

Remote Learning Guidance for pupils in Years 7-10

Years 7, 8 and 9

Knowledge Organiser revision

Use any subject knowledge organisers that you have to revise your knowledge and identify areas for further practice. Take a section of a knowledge organiser, read it through, cover it up and see if you can recall this knowledge.

Individual Google Classrooms

Please use your own online classroom space to catch up on any lessons missed and use the resources to revise recent learning.

OAK National Academy

You can use this site to find some lessons linked to your current learning in each subject. Some lessons that would be supportive are

English

- [The Short Story](#)
- [Creative Writing: Short Stories](#)
- [Creative Writing: Memoir](#)
- [Rhetoric: Change: Michelle Obama & Lennie James](#)

Maths. Select any topics you would like to practice or improve

Science

- [Cells](#)
- [Atoms and the Periodic Table](#)
- [Energy](#)

History

- [How successful were efforts to abolish slavery in the nineteenth century?](#)

Learning apps

All students will have login details to the following learning apps to support revision and practice;

- Sparks Maths
- Bedrock
- LanguageNut

Year 10

Knowledge Organiser revision

Use any subject knowledge organisers that you have to revise your knowledge and identify areas for further practice. Take a section of a knowledge organiser, read it through, cover it up and see if you can recall this knowledge.

OAK National Academy

You can use this site to find some lessons linked to your current learning in each subject. Some lessons that would be supportive are;

Biology

- Cell Biology

Chemistry

- Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table

Maths Select any topics you would like to practice or improve

Individual Google Classrooms

Please use your own online classroom space to catch up on any lessons missed and use the resources to revise recent learning.

Learning apps

All students will have login details to the following learning apps to support revision and practice;

- GCSEPod
- KayScience

CareerPilot <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>

Learners can use this site to research different careers and the routes into them. There are assessment tools to identify your strengths and careers that will make good use of these.