

Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

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

As I am sure you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has confirmed that their teaching members will be taking industrial action in the form of strike days. The next date scheduled is Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March.

This action is **not** against Outwood Junior Academy Brumby 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 pupils. 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 an increased number of staff taking strike action this time, we have made the difficult decision to close the following classes on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

3SF, 4JM, 4BG, 4DM, 5EJ, 5AM,

Online learning, via Google Classroom, will be available to all pupils with a class closure.

For those children in the classes above, that are entitled to a free school meal, pack ups will be made available for collection between 11-12 from the school office on the closure days. A booking form will be sent to you if you would like to book a pack up for collection.

3JW/HR, 3LT, 3AS/SB, 4KH, 5LP, 5KW and Year 6 should attend the academy as normal.

Like previous strike letters, the above is the current position but as we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to close further may have to be taken at the last minute. However, I am confident that this will be our position and every effort will be made to give notice where 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. As I'm sure you are aware, we have been able to remain open during the previous strikes however this time it is not possible for all.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Tait

**Principal**