

23rd January 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

Re: NEU Strike Action

As you will be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) have announced that they intend to take national strike action in England and Wales involving teachers on a total of 6 dates during February and March. The four dates that affect The Laurel Academy, and all schools in Yorkshire and the Humber, are:

- 1 February 2023,
- 28 February 2023,
- 15 March 2023,
- 16 March 2023.

Please note that the dispute is not with Delta Academies Trust or any Academy within the Trust. This industrial action is in relation to the NEU's dispute with the Government over the nationally agreed pay rises.

The Department for Education have written to headteachers asking us to take all reasonable steps to keep schools open for as many pupils as possible. As the members intending to strike do not have to give notice, it will not become fully clear until 1st February how our academy will be affected and to what extent we will be able to stay open and fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities. Of course, we wish to keep disruption to a minimum. We will inevitably have to combine some teaching groups to ensure the days are as productive as possible and we are still in the planning stages. If we find we cannot remain open to all year groups, we will prioritise vulnerable pupils and pupils who are due to take exams and other formal assessments.

I understand that the uncertainty of who will strike makes it difficult for everyone, but I hope to have more information over the coming week. I will write to you again when I have more information to share.

On a positive note, we were sent an award this week for being in the top 25% nationally for attendance at similar schools.

Thank you for all your support.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katy Taylor-Clarke'.

Mrs K Taylor-Clarke
Associate Principal