



HARLESTON SANCROFT  
ACADEMY

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20th January 2023

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As you will be aware the **NEU (National Education Union) has called four days of strike action** relating to the national dispute between the NEU and the government over fully funded, above-inflation pay rises.

I'm contacting all families in order to provide as much notice as possible that learning is likely to be disrupted.

The dates of the strikes are as follows:

- **Wednesday 1st February (national strike)**
- **Wednesday 1st March (regional strike)**
- **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March (national strike)**

As a school, we do not take a position or view on such strikes. However, we are required to respond based on the knowledge that we have.

Government guidance states that schools should do what they can to remain open. However, if staff numbers drop below certain thresholds, the school's ability to maintain safety may be compromised. For this reason, *it is highly likely that the strikes will prevent The Harleston Sancroft Academy from running as normal on some or all of these dates.*

The same guidance asserts that in-school places are to be prioritised for vulnerable children\* and young people, and children of critical workers\*\* (*we may be asking for information relating to this over the coming week and as the situation evolves*). In addition, schools are required to consider prioritising children due to take public examinations and other formal assessments this academic year.

The school's plans will evolve over the coming days and weeks, and further information will be provided when we know more.

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you and your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating; it is a very challenging situation for everyone involved. There are many

unknowns and I am working closely with Senior Leaders in both the Primary and Secondary Phase. It is inevitable there will be an impact on our community and I thank you for your patience and understanding in relation to this.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Connelly', with a small flourish at the end.

Rob Connelly  
**Headteacher**

\*are assessed as being in need under section 17 or section 47 of the Children Act 1989, (including children and young people who have a child in need plan or a child protection plan) and children who are looked-after by the local authority

-have an education, health and care (EHC) plan

-have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance.

\*\*Parents whose work is critical to an emergency response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors.