

Seize the day

EXCELLENCE. RESILIENCE. INCLUSION.

Headteacher: Mr Alexander Silk, MA , NPQH

19th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, it has not yet been possible to reach an agreement on the ongoing disputes with the NEU members in the school. As a consequence, a series of additional dates of industrial action have been announced by the NEU. The dates announced so far are:

- Thursday 25 June 2026
- Friday 26 June 2026
- Monday 29 June 2026
- Tuesday 30 June 2026
- Wednesday 01 July 2026
- Thursday 02 July 2026
- Friday 03 July 2026
- Monday 06 July 2026
- Tuesday 07 July 2026
- Wednesday 08 July 2026
- Thursday 09 July 2026
- Friday 10 July 2026

These dates are shown on the calendar below and chart the number of days the NEU members have undertaken strike action this term (in red). It also shows the dates initially announced by the NEU but then later removed due to talks between the school and senior NEU officials (shown in orange).

As with previous strikes, the school will remain **fully open throughout**. All lessons and all planned activities will take place as normal. The first date of industrial action is planned for the school's Culture Day celebrations. We will be continuing with this celebration of diversity and strength in the school, and we will not have any disruption to this event.

April 2026							May 2026							June 2026							July 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

Our position remains clear and resolute: the education, stability and wellbeing of the children must remain the central priority of the school, and we will continue to act decisively to uphold that principle.

This renewed period of strike dates marks the end of the brief suspension of industrial action earlier this term, during which the strike dates of 13th–15th May and 1st–5th June had been withdrawn. At that stage, there had appeared to be at least some indication of a willingness to de-escalate the dispute following the significant public and media attention surrounding the sustained disruption caused to students, families and the wider school community. Regrettably, that apparent willingness to de-escalate the dispute has not ultimately materialised into further meaningful action.

It is also important that parents understand that the NEU continues to financially support members participating in the industrial action through reimbursement arrangements to offset loss of earnings during strike periods, so striking staff are not losing any of their pay. Consequently, those participating in the strike action are not experiencing the normal financial implications ordinarily associated with such a prolonged absence from work.

At the same time, those teachers, support staff and leaders who continue to attend school each day are undertaking substantial additional responsibilities and working considerable extra hours in order to maintain the safe operation of the school, sustain continuity of education, and mitigate the impact of this dispute on our students. Their professionalism, resilience and unwavering commitment during these exceptionally challenging circumstances have been exemplary. I would like to continue to place on record my sincere gratitude to those staff who continue to serve the school community with such dedication, often under sustained pressure and scrutiny, for the benefit of the children. I know from the many emails, messages and conversations I have received that this commitment is recognised and deeply appreciated by parents and the wider community, and I have ensured that this appreciation has been passed directly on to staff.

As always, I would like to thank parents and carers for the patience, support and understanding you have shown throughout what has been a prolonged and challenging period for the school community. It is sincerely appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Silk', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Silk
Headteacher