



Discovery Drive Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4GJ

T: 01732 847000

Headteacher - Miss Tina Gobell

Deputy Headteacher - Miss Jenny Baker

E - office@discovery.kent.sch.uk

Website - www.discovery.kent.sch.uk

28th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

National Education Union (NEU) Industrial Action – 1st February 2023

As you are aware from the media and earlier correspondence from the School, the National Education Union (NEU) has voted to take part in legal industrial action.

The NEU plans to strike on the following days in the South-East:

- Wednesday 1st February 2023
- Thursday 2nd March 2023
- Wednesday 15th March 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023

The School has been notified that there are 21 members of our teaching team who are members of the NEU, many of whom are intending to take strike action on 1st February. I will update you later about any impact of industrial action on the other dates. I am grateful that staff in our school have shared in advance their intention to take industrial action; staff were under no obligation to do so.

I am now in a position to advise parents of the impact of the strike action on our school. This is detailed below:

Year Group	Classes open for children	Classes closed for children
Reception	Jenner Newton Einstein	
One		Goodall Darwin Earhart
Two	Attenborough Gilbert Edison	
Three		Seacole Curie Nightingale
Four	Thunberg Berners-Lee	Jemison
Five	Johnson	Jackson Hawking
Six		Winston Turing Galileo





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The School will also be open for any children where at least one parent or carer is a critical worker. The definition of a critical worker is as follows:

Health and social care: doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, veterinary practice staff, dentists, other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector, including 999 and 111 critical services.

Education and childcare: childcare, teaching staff, school support staff and social workers

Key public services: charities and workers delivering key frontline services and those responsible for the management of the deceased.

Public safety and national security: police and support staff, other emergency services and support staff and National Crime Agency staff.

If you meet the criteria above, then please complete the attached form, with supporting evidence, and return the form to the School no later than **midday on Tuesday 31st January 2023**. We will have limited numbers of staff in school as a result of the Industrial Action, therefore it is essential that we have a complete list of all children attending school by this time. This is to ensure that we have sufficient numbers of staff in school to look after the children. All Critical Key Worker children should attend school in their school P.E. uniform.

The School will also be open for any vulnerable children. Eligible parents and carers will be contacted separately about this.

All children able to attend school, should enter and exit via their usual gate. Collection arrangements will be unaffected at the end of the day. The length of the school day will also be unaffected, with the school gates opening at 8:40 a.m. and the day ending at 3:15 p.m. Any absences for unaffected classes should be reported in the usual way.

Please can you also you take note of the additional issues that may be affected on Wednesday 1st February by the industrial action:

	Will not be affected	Will be affected
Before and after school tuition		All tuition will be cancelled. The session missed will be offered at another time
School-run clubs	Choir will be running	Eco-club will not be running
School dinners	Will be provided as normal	
Externally run clubs	Will run as usual	
Breakfast and After-School Clubs	Will run as usual	





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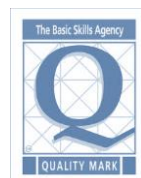
Website - www.discovery.kent.sch.uk

The information provided above is a reflection of the current situation. However, please be aware that staff have the right to change their mind about taking industrial action up until the day of the strike. Therefore, it would be advisable for you to have contingency plans in place in the event that further classes have to close at short notice.

Please be assured that I will keep you updated and will share information as soon as it becomes available.

Kind regards,

Miss T Gobell
Head Teacher





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Critical Key Worker Application

I confirm that at least one parent or carer meets the criteria of a Critical Key Worker.

Child/ren's name/s:

Class:

Please tick as appropriate:

Sector	Role	Please tick all that apply
Health and social care		
Education and childcare		
Key public services		
Public safety and national security:		

Please attach a form of supporting evidence of your employment e.g. identification badge or a letter from your employer (once seen, all evidence will be securely destroyed).

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please return to the School Office (office@discovery.kent.sch.uk) no later than **midday on 31st January 2023**. Thank you.

