



23 January 2023

Dear parents and carers

You will have seen recently on the news, information about teachers forthcoming strike days. As I am sure you are aware, the outcome of the NEU ballot is that strike action will be taken on the following date.

Wednesday 1 February 2023

Elsacar Holy Trinity Primary Academy will **not** be open to all pupils on this date and St Mary's Academy Trust and myself are now working hard to risk assess the percentage of pupils that school will be able to cater for on this date.

On the day we will be opening our doors to as many critical worker families as we can. In order for us to begin this process, we are going to be asking for information from any of our families that feel that they meet the criteria set out in the newly published Government Guidance of Critical Worker, (please see attached)

Health and social care

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and 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; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

Education and childcare

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during an emergency response to deliver this approach

Key public services

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

Local and National Government

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- an emergency response
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits including in government agencies and Arm's length bodies (ALB).

Food and other necessary goods

This includes those involved in food:

- production
- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example hygienic and veterinary medicines)

Public safety and national security

- This includes:
- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians • contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key defence and national security outputs and essential to an emergency response) • fire and
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national
- security roles, including those overseas

Transport

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during an emergency response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

Utilities, communication and financial services

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity, and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry supplies to continue during an emergency response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sector

If you feel that you would be eligible for a critical worker place during this day of strike action, please contact the school office with your child's name and your critical worker status. Alternatively email us this information to Lisa.smith@smat.org.uk

At this point, we cannot assure anyone of a place within school, but we will get back to you as soon as we possibly can.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Silverwood', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr S Silverwood
Head Teacher