

20 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm writing to share my current expectations for the arrangements at Castle Rushen High School during the second two scheduled NASUWT strike days: Wednesday 11 January 2023 and Thursday 12 January 2023. These are in the first week back after the Christmas holiday.

As previously stated, we have to make our plans based on a 'worst case scenario', assuming that all teachers who could choose to strike will do so.

On that basis I regret to have to inform you that, again, we will only be able to accommodate some students in school on those days, with most being required to remain at home.

Years 7 - 9

The arrangements for Years 7, 8 and 9 are expected to be the same as during the first strike.

Students in Years 7, 8, and 9 should remain at home on the two strike days. They should access their learning remotely via the learning platforms below, unless otherwise advised by their individual teachers:

- Maths - MyMaths via <https://www.mymaths.co.uk>
- Literacy – Lexia via <https://www.lexiapowerup.com>
- Science – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p>

As a significant proportion of our teachers may be on strike, there will unfortunately not be subject specific learning activities available for every subject.

Year 10

On Thursday 12 January, in the morning, some Year 10 students have an external BTEC Health and Social Care examination which they should attend from 9.00am. Most other Year 10 students should remain at home on both Wednesday 11 January and Thursday 12 January, the exceptions being those who may be vulnerable without school support, and a few specifically invited to attend sessions in school for one of our practical/vocational subjects. We will write separately to the parents of these students.

At home, students should access their learning remotely via the learning platforms below, unless otherwise advised by their individual teachers:

- Option subjects - via <https://www.itslearning.com>, Google Classroom or Microsoft Teams
- Maths - MathsWatch via <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/vle/>
- Science – Seneca via <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
- English – past paper revision using the two questions and articles in the links below:
[0500_y20_sp_1.indd \(cambridgeinternational.org\)](#)
[0500_y20_si_1.indd \(cambridgeinternational.org\)](#)

Year 11

On Wednesday 11 January, all Year 11 students should come to school for periods 1-4, starting at 9:25am. There will be a carousel of English and Maths sessions, as well as some subject lessons. Afternoon learning sessions will be optional, a limited number of subject lessons will go ahead where the teacher is available, alternatively most students will be offered the opportunity of supported private study.



On Thursday 12 January, similar arrangements will apply. Some Year 11 students have an external BTEC Health and Social Care examination to attend from 9.00am. The Year 11 students who sat early entry Maths GCSE in November will be able to collect their results from 9.00am in the School Library, and we will offer post-results support to anyone who needs it. For most students there will be some of their normal lessons going ahead where the teacher is available, for the rest there is a further opportunity of supported private study. The afternoon session coincides with Senior Games which will not be possible to run, so staying in school will be optional, with supported private study.

Details of Year 11 lessons taking place on these two days will be provided to students.

Normal registers will not be taken, so it is important that students sign in and out at the school reception for health and safety purposes. Those Year 11 students without specific risk assessment arrangements concerning lunchtime are welcome to stay in school from 1-2pm.

Sixth Form Students

Some Year 12 and Year 13 students have an external BTEC Health and Social Care examination scheduled for the morning of Wednesday 11 January which they should attend as planned.

Otherwise, the arrangements for students in Years 12 and 13 are expected to be the same as during the first strike. Year 12 and Year 13 students should attend those subject lessons which are expected to go ahead. A list of classes will be published by the Sixth Form team. This list will include any collaboration lessons expected to go ahead at our partner schools. Year 12 and Year 13 students may attend school at other times, undertaking independent study. It is important to sign in and out at school reception for fire purposes. If students are intending to have school lunch on Wednesday or Thursday, they should add their name to the relevant list outside the Key Stage 5 office.

Special Provision Centre or 'Unit'

Our Special Provision Centre will be open as usual with all students who attend coming in as normal.

Vulnerable students

For those students offered a place in school during the first strike days in December, the same arrangements will apply. These students can attend school for the full 2 days; they will not have their normal timetabled lessons, and we will organise and deliver suitable alternatives. If you think your son/daughter is in this category but have not been contacted, please tell us, within the staffing constraints presented, we will do our best to help.

School Meals

Students in school can access a menu, which will be more limited than usual, at break and lunchtime.

Families with children not in school and eligible for free school meals can collect a cold packed lunch of a sandwich, fruit, drink, and snack on strike days via our reception between 12.45 and 2.00pm. Please let us know if you are likely to collect lunch and if you have any specific dietary requirements by emailing CRHSEnquiries@sch.im.

School Buses

As far as we are aware, school buses will be running as normal.



Castle Rushen
High School

Remote learning access issues

Parents may wish to have a look in advance and let us know if there are any remote learning access issues as we may not be able to help on the strike days themselves. As a significant proportion of our teachers may be on strike, there will unfortunately not be subject specific learning activities available for every subject.

I am aware of the impact these arrangements may have on our young people and their families, but I have been left with no other option given the potential number of teachers that will be on strike.

You have my continued thanks for your ongoing patience and support through these challenging times. Please contact us here at school if you have any queries about these arrangements.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Winstanley".

Mr K Winstanley
Headteacher