

8 February 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to share my current expectations for the arrangements at Castle Rushen High School during the third two scheduled NASUWT strike days: Wednesday 15 February 2023 and Thursday 16 February 2023. These fall in the last week of this half term.

As previously stated, we must make our plans based on a 'worst case scenario', assuming 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 and second strikes.

Non-vulnerable 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 considerable proportion of our teachers may be on strike, there will unfortunately not be subject specific learning activities available for every subject.

#### Year 10

Most Year 10 students should remain at home on both Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 February, 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. There is controlled assessment for the 'Events' class taking place in their normal lessons 3 - 4 on Wednesday. Students studying 'Events' should attend, at Castletown Youth Club.

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:  
[English Paper 1 Reading](#)  
[English Paper 1 Reading - Insert](#)

#### Year 11

On Wednesday 15 February, all Year 11 students should come to school for periods 1-6, starting at 9:25am. There will be a carousel of workshops led by an external UK organisation called Inner Drive, which will focus on revision skills, time management and coping with exam nerves. There will also be

some regular lessons running and some directed private study time. All Year 11 students are expected to be in school for the full day.

On Thursday 16 February, similar arrangements will apply. We have a day of workshops which focus on how to produce a good CV, application and interview advice led by Junior Achievement. Some regular lessons will be running and where this is the case, students will attend their timetabled lessons. The afternoon session coincides with Senior Games which it will not be possible to run, so staying in school on Thursday afternoon will be optional. Those who choose to attend will have supported private study.

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

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. On arrival in the morning Year 11 should meet in the dining hall for instructions. Those Year 11 students without specific risk assessment arrangements concerning lunchtime are welcome to stay in school from 1-2pm.

#### Sixth Form Students

The arrangements for students in Years 12 and 13 are expected to be the same as during the first and second strikes. 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. The Criminology controlled assessment for students studying this in Block D will start at normal lesson time on Wednesday. Students should attend from 1:15pm – 3:45pm at Castletown Youth Club.

#### 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 previous strike days in December and January, 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](mailto: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