Frequently Asked Questions

As you have been given advance notice of this strike, why can't you find a way of keeping the school open?

For the reasons outlined below, it is not possible for us to find the staff to cover all the teaching groups across the school. This would leave some students without a teacher, which would clearly be unsafe.

What will the students do at home?

We will provide live online lessons for these students whenever possible. These lessons will run at the normal timetabled times. To access these lessons, your son/daughter will need to go to meet.google.com and type in the staff code for their teacher for that lesson.

Students should login at the start of each lesson. However, it is possible that their teacher will not be available for some of their sessions. This may be because their teacher is on strike or because they are absent for some other reason. If this is the case, our students should follow the guidance below:

GCSE Students

- Check your Google classroom for this subject. Complete any work that has been set on here or any tasks that are outstanding.
- If there is no work to do, complete tasks from one of the two areas:
    - GCSE Pod: (https://www.gcsepod.com/). Log on to this and access tasks for your subject
    - The GCSE Hub: (https://fallibroome.academy/gcse-hub/). Find your subject and use the materials posted to revise content you have covered or learn new material.

KS3 Students

- Check your Google classroom for this subject. Complete any work that has been set on here or any tasks that are outstanding.
- If there is no work to do, go to the curriculum pages on the school website (https://fallibroome.academy/curriculum-maps-academic/) and access the Knowledge Organisers for the subject you have. Use these to learn the content you need and test yourself on this knowledge (or ask someone else to test you).

Why have some schools stayed fully open when you have not?

This depends on how many teachers in each school are members of the NEU.

Why can't you employ supply teachers to cover the absences?

We have a bank of supply teachers who help us to manage normal staff absences. Some of these teachers are also on strike. The expected level of absence for the strike days will far exceed our capacity in this respect.

Why can't you put groups together so a teacher can teach a lesson to a larger group?

There are several obstacles to consider here:

1. Colleagues who report to work cannot be instructed to cover the absence of a colleague who is on strike.
2. Senior staff can provide cover of this nature, but this capacity is limited. We don't have enough senior staff to cover the expected level of absence.
3. This strategy can work if the level of teacher absence is moderate. However, the expected level of absence for the strike days will be severe.

Why can't you provide specific tasks and guidance for students whose teachers are on strike?

Colleagues who are on strike are not obliged to set work for their students. As they are losing a day's pay for being on strike, we cannot require this from them either. Also, we cannot instruct any other member of staff to provide work for classes that are taught by a colleague who is on strike.

As a result, we have provided more general guidance for students to help them make productive use of their time if their teacher is not available.