

Head Teacher: Elizabeth Hopewell

Causeway Green Road,
Oldbury,
West Midlands B68 8LD

Telephone: 0121 569 7040
Email: info@orchard.sandwell.sch.uk
Web: www.orchard.sandwell.sch.uk



9.06.2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you regarding further proposed industrial action involving school unions.

The strike action regarding NASUWT (teaching staff) on Thursday 11th June is not going ahead so school will be open normally on Thursday 11th June.

We are very sorry about the short notice in letting you know but this has only just been confirmed by the NASUWT. At the moment we do not know the implications for the future dates so it is necessary to assume these may go ahead.

Future dates to remind you are:

- Wednesday 17 June 2026 (NASUWT)
- Friday 19 June 2026 (GMB)
- Tuesday 23 June 2026 (GMB)
- Thursday 25 June 2026 (NASUWT)

If industrial action goes ahead, it is likely that the school will need to close on these dates. We wanted to give you as much notice as possible to allow you time to make alternative arrangements where necessary.

We fully understand that this ongoing situation will cause significant disruption and inconvenience for families, and we are very sorry for this. Please be assured that these decisions are not taken lightly. While not all staff may be participating in strike action, we are unlikely to be able to safely provide the highly specialised and consistent support that our pupils need.

The safety and wellbeing of your children remain our absolute priority, and it is for this reason that closure may be necessary on the dates listed above.

The school and Sandwell Council have been actively addressing the issues involved and continue to do so. They will continue to meet with union representatives in an effort to

resolve the dispute as quickly as possible, and we remain hopeful that a positive outcome can be reached to prevent further disruption.

We will keep you updated with any developments. Should the situation change and we are able to open on any of the proposed dates, we will contact you as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Grindulis
Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body