

13.03.23

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

RE: Rail Strike and West Midlands Bus Strike 16th March 2023

You will no doubt by now be aware of the continuing strike action announced by rail workers and the West Midlands bus strike planned to take place this month.

<https://www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk/travel-information/journey-planning/service-disruption/industrial-action>

<https://www.tfwm.org.uk/plan-your-journey/major-roadworks-and-events/industrial-action/>

Impact of the strikes

The strike action which has been planned during this period will have a serious impact on public transport availability across Birmingham and the wider region on the following days:

Rail Strikes:

- Thursday 16th March
- Saturday 18th March
- Thursday 30th March
- Saturday 1st April

Bus Strikes:

- Thursday 16th March onwards (limited service only until further notice)

How we are responding

BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy will be open as normal on the above dates, however we are aware that on Thursday 16th and Thursday 30th March, the combination of rail and bus strikes will mean that a significant number of students will struggle to attend the academy on these days.

Therefore, on these dates (16th and 30th March) we will be setting tasks which can be either be completed in the academy, or remotely, and we will be giving students the choice as to whether to work from the academy or from home. Obviously, we would encourage those who can get to the academy to do so, as they will benefit from our facilities and the in-person support from teachers. In particular our production arts and stage management students should do everything in their power to attend as they are currently building a set and need to spend as much time in the workshop as possible.

As always, we will be relaxing the late code on all strike days, to encourage as many students as possible to continue to come into the academy. I understand that it might be challenging for a number of students to arrive on time, however, it is vital that students continue to attend wherever possible.

Where travel is impossible

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web www.boa-stageandscreen.co.uk

www.facebook.com/BOAStageandScreen

Please could you contact the academy using the email address attendance@boa-stageandscreen.co.uk - the phone lines are likely to be extremely busy and it is vital that we pick up all messages quickly so we can attempt to support those who are struggling.

I do hope that the negotiations between the UK Government and our transport workers remove the need for possible strike action but, until we receive any updates, it is better for us all to be forewarned.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mp' followed by a horizontal flourish.

Michael Painter
Principal