

23 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing in follow up to my recent message regarding industrial action. As you will be aware the National Education Union (NEU) will be taking industrial action in the form of strike action. This action is not against our school, but is part of national industrial action organised by the NEU regarding pay and school funding. They have announced 7 days of strike action across the country, 4 of which affect the schools in our region, the first being Wednesday 1 February 2023, with further strikes planned for Tuesday 28 February, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March 2023.

We wanted to give you advanced warning of the strike on Wednesday 1 February as we anticipate that it will cause disruption to our school and to schools across the region. We have a significant number of staff who are members of the NEU and this action could result in a full or partial closure.

Please be informed that in preparing for strike action, we must consider the fact that:

- there is no requirement for a union to inform their employer which or how many members of staff will take strike action

and

- union members are under no obligation to inform employers of their union membership, or to inform employers in advance of their intention to strike.

This means that it may not be until very close to the strike day that we will know exactly how many teachers we have on site. We are also mindful that staff not taking strike action may have children at other schools who are affected by strike action, which may result in additional staff absence.

In making any decision, our first priority must be whether the school can operate safely, therefore, we are conducting a risk assessment to establish the extent to which we can operate without compromising the safety of our pupils. We are also consulting the DfE guidance, to ensure we operate within our legal and statutory frameworks.

Should the school remain open, or partially open, it is highly likely that pupils will not have all their lessons as normal and there may have to be periods of supervised independent study. We will provide you with an update as soon as we are able, advising you of the extent that we will be affected by the planned strike.

It is our hope that this issue can be resolved as soon as possible and will be in touch again soon.

Yours faithfully



Richard Williman
Headteacher



Jonny Uttley
CEO