

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Proposed Strike Action: Tuesday 5th July 2016

As you may be aware, one of the teaching unions, the NUT, has announced that it will hold one day of national strike action on Tuesday, 5th July 2016.

While negotiations are on-going, we wanted to warn you that there is a possibility that our school may close next week or that lessons may be disrupted.

I am aware that class or school closures are inconvenient so I write to give you advance notice of the likely impact. This action is not against our school individually, but is part of action taking place across the country about government changes to pay, pensions and conditions.

My main concern is, as always, the safety, health and wellbeing of our students. The decision to close a school is only ever taken if it is decided that it is not possible, or not safe to remain open.

There is no requirement on unions to inform us of which members of staff will take action, and it may be that they will not know themselves as there is no obligation on members of unions to obey a strike call.

It is illegal for the school to use supply teachers or non-striking teachers to cover the work of colleagues absent due to the strike and so the challenge to maintain a normal school day is significant.

Because we may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work, the decision to close may have to be taken at the last minute.

If the action goes ahead, the following arrangements will be in place:

- An email will be sent informing parents and carers that the school will be closed or lessons disrupted, and a notice placed onto the academy website no later than 0800 on Tuesday 5th July 2016

Every effort will be made to give you as much notice as possible; but in case the decision has to be made on the day itself, we are asking parents and carers to ensure that their daughters are aware of the contact name and address which was supplied on entry to the academy of the home to attend in case of emergency closure.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs L Monk
Principal