

Pilgrim Primary Academy

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Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE, N.P.Q.H)



21st April 2023

Ref: Teacher Union Strike Action – Thursday 27th April 2023 (next week)

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well. As I am sure you will be aware from recent media reports, the largest teacher union, National Education Union (NEU) has declared 2 days of further strike action which will take place on **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**. The strike is happening in result of a national dispute between the union and the government over pay and school funding, and not because of any issues at our school.

This letter relates to the strike action NEXT WEEK on Thursday 27th April only

I want to reassure our parents that the education and safety of our pupils is always our priority. **At this point, we understand that a limited number of colleagues will be taking industrial action on April 27th.** We have looked at the school timetable for that day to ensure we can still manage the safe supervision of our children while minimising the impact on learning with some reduced staffing levels in place.

Therefore, if the strike action goes ahead, I am anticipating that **THE SCHOOL WILL REMAIN OPEN AND ALL CLASSES AND PROVISIONS WILL RUN AS NORMAL**. We will put the following arrangements in place:

- Where class teachers are striking, school cover staff will teach the class; these are staff well known to the children who are familiar with the classroom routines.
- School meals/catering arrangements will not be affected by the strike action and the lunch provision will operate as per usual.
- Breakfast and After School Pirates club will be operating as usual
- Extra-Curricular Clubs will take place as usual
- For any pupils who receive funded transport, we have requested that these remain unchanged on that day.

Attendance at school on national strike days

- **All children should attend school, as normal, on Thursday 27th April** (no absence will be authorised for reasons of non-attendance due to this being a strike action day)

These are the current planned arrangements. It appears unlikely that the proposed industrial action will be averted or there will be a change to what is detailed above. Should this position change, I will write to you again outlining any changes to arrangements. However, up to and on the day of the planned strikes, I would ask that you regularly check for further communication from school in the usual manner (email, text, website homepage).

Strike Action Tuesday May 2nd

I will write to you nearer the time to confirm the arrangements for this day.

If you have any questions or concerns about the alternative arrangements outlined above, please speak to me in the first instance. As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lisa Meek