



Headteacher: Mrs McIntosh Coton-in-the-Elms C of E Primary School

26 January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Industrial Strike Action

As you will no doubt be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has balloted its members on strike action in its on-going dispute with the Government on teachers' pay. There are a number of different teaching unions but at the moment it is only the NEU that has the mandate to strike. The NEU has set a number of dates for strike action in the spring term – the first being Wednesday 1st February 2023.

I have consulted with our teaching staff and whilst some of our teachers will be supporting their union and taking strike action, currently it does not look like the strike will impact our ability to remain open to all classes on Wednesday 1st February 2023.

As head teacher I have a statutory duty to put measures in place to keep our school open, whilst also ensuring the school operates in such a way that the health, safety, and welfare, of pupils and staff is not jeopardised if they attend school on the day of the strike. A risk assessment has been undertaken to ensure that all necessary safeguarding procedures are not impeded and still in place.

Whilst school will remain open for all classes and offer the usual curriculum as much as possible, the Department for Education guidance states that there can be flexibility in what is delivered on this day.

Lunchtime arrangements on the 1st February will not be affected by the strike.

Each school has different systems in place and will be impacted differently by the strike action. I am aware that some local primary and secondary schools may have to close certain classes. Your child is expected to attend school; their absence will be unauthorised if they do not attend school without a reasonable reason.

There are further dates scheduled for industrial strike action, which will be considered in due course and you will be kept informed if these impact on school or class closures.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L. McIntosh
Headteacher

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