



Thursday 2nd February 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Half day strike action by teachers on Tuesday 21st February

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the teaching unions in Northern Ireland. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school and give you sufficient time to make alternative arrangements.

Please be advised that this guidance may be subject to change at any time.

How will strike action affect Victoria Primary School, Nursery Unit and Learning Support Classroom?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. Teachers involved in the action will, therefore, not teach their class(es) or undertake any other duties before 12.00 noon on the strike day.

A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

As the Principal, I and the Board of Governors have determined the school will be:

closed to ALL pupils on the morning of Tuesday 21st February 2023

School will reopen for all pupils at 12:15pm on Tuesday 21st February. Afternoon Nursery will open as normal at 12.30pm. Lunch time will be unaffected and school meals will continue as normal on this day. All children are welcome to bring a packed lunch or avail of the normal school meal menu.

In terms of school attendance marks, your child's attendance percentage will not be negatively impacted by the school closure on the morning of the strike.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A strike by teachers is very unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C. Fulton
Principal