

20th January 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU (National Education Union) have declared that there will be a series of days of national industrial action, following a successful ballot of their members.

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and this being fully funded (as opposed to coming from existing school budgets). Please be assured that this is a national issue and not because of specific challenges at our school.

This industrial action will take place on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 1st February 2023**
- **Thursday 2nd March 2023**
- **Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023.**

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on these dates. Currently I, and my senior team, are seeking to understand the impact of the action on our school, what this means and how it will effect provision.

While I am not yet able to confirm exact arrangements, we are considering several options, including whether we will be able to open the school to some/all children, support we may be able to provide online or whether we may need to close the school. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching. As such, these decisions will be based on our ability and capacity to maintain appropriate levels of provision.

Given the uncertainty, which I will seek to clarify as soon as I possibly can, I recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for these dates, in the event that the school may be closed.

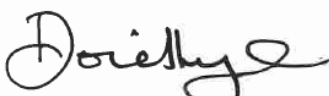
I am, of course, sorry about the potential disruption to your family and to your child's education and recognise that this must be frustrating. I understand that this is not an ideal situation to find ourselves in. Throughout, and as always, I ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect, one of the key values of Bow School.

Please be assured, I am working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you of the final arrangements as soon as possible.

We will continue to communicate with you, on this issues, via the usual channels – i.e. in writing, via email and, where appropriate, via the school website.

As always, If you have any questions, please contact the school via enquiry@bow-school.org.uk

Yours Sincerely,



Mr D. Lye
Headteacher