



## St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School

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Headteacher Mr A Lincoln BA Hons

Executive Headteacher Mr D Etherton B.Ed Hons. NPQH



Bishop  
Otter  
Academy  
Trust

24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### **Industrial Action (SCHOOL CLOSURE)- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union (NEU) have declared strike action, which will take place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Future dates have been announced however we are at present unsure if these will take place due to ongoing discussions between the union and the government. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over school funding, workload and teachers pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

We are getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

**We have taken the very difficult decision to inform you that the school will be CLOSED on the 1<sup>st</sup> February. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day.**

**As per recommendations from the government and the Department for Education, we will be offering child-care provision for a small number of families on this day. The numbers of children eligible for this is very low and we will be in touch with individual families, later today, to inform you that we will be able to offer your child a place for the day.**

We have not taken this decision lightly (and extensive discussions have taken place with both governors and the Academy Trust) and we are genuinely sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. St Nicolas & St Mary's has undertaken a robust risk assessment based upon the number of staff available and the need to ensure we continue to offer a safe and secure environment for our pupils and feel that we would be unable to provide this (*with the exception of a very small number of children*) with the staff we have available.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation and we will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Kind regards,

Mr A. Lincoln  
Headteacher