



St Nicolas and St Mary CE Primary School

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Bishop
Otter
Academy
Trust

24th February 2023

Industrial Action – Thursday 2nd March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware from media coverage and previous school communication that the second day of planned strike action from the National Education Union (NEU) will take place on **Thursday 2nd March**. Our current understanding is that a significant number of our teaching staff will again be taking industrial action and therefore we are getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible about our arrangements for that day.

Once again, we have 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. Based on the information we have, we have made the very difficult decision to **PARTIALLY OPEN** the school for a small number of children. As per recommendations from the government and the Department for Education, the school will be open for:

- Year 6 children.
- Children whose parents work in one of the following 'Critical Worker' professions and are unable to organise alternative childcare arrangements. **Parents must confirm this through proof of identification** which can be shown to a member of the school office team or a copy can be emailed to office@stnm.org.uk Please do let us know in advance so that we can organise staffing accordingly.
 - 'Blue Light' services (Fire Service, Police, Ambulance, Coast Guard-search & rescue)
 - National Health Service (NHS)
 - Education Sector (Schools that are open on the Strike day)
- A small number of additional families – school will be in touch later today.
- Children of our school staff that are required to work.

We do genuinely acknowledge the potential frustrations and challenges that this creates for many of our families. We were incredibly thankful for the support and understanding shown on the previous day of industrial action and are hopeful this will continue for this and any future industrial action dates.

It is unlikely that the industrial action will be called off but, if this were to happen, we will contact parent immediately to inform you that the school will be fully open.

The next two days of notified strike action are Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March. We will again review our position after the 2nd March strike day and if we are able to have more children in school next time, we will update parents at the time.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support for the school and children's education.

Kind regards,

Mr A. Lincoln
Headteacher