

# The Federation of Boldmere Schools

Cofield Road · Sutton Coldfield · B73 5SD

*Our Vision: The Federation of Boldmere Schools empowers all children to embrace learning; achieve their personal best; and build their social, emotional and physical wellbeing.*

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

You may be aware from media coverage that teacher members of the National Education Union, (NEU) have declared strike action, which will take place initially, on Wednesday 1st February 2023. The strike is happening because the NEU are in dispute with the Secretary of State for Education because there is a failure to make available additional and sufficient school funds to allow employers to pay a fully funded increase in teachers' pay at a rate greater than inflation. This is a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not because of any issues at our school.

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning will be disrupted on this date and it will lead to partial closures of classes, which we will let you know of as soon as possible.

We recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for the following dates also, in addition to February 1<sup>st</sup> as further NEU (teacher members) strike action is also planned to take place on:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education and, hopefully, between now and then, the government will sit down and talk with the NEU in the hope of providing some resolution to prevent the strikes from going ahead as planned, however, I am not confident of this.

I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. As a school leader I wholeheartedly support the actions being taken by our NEU colleagues and I respect the right of staff to voice their concern over key issues that ultimately impact on the quality of education we can provide over time, including staff recruitment and retention.

The Federation of Boldmere Schools remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are 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 keep you updated via ParentMail and further correspondence will follow.

Yours sincerely

Mr C. Glasgow  
Executive Head Teacher

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