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Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Industrial strike action

As you may be aware from the recent media coverage, the National Education Union (NEU), announced that they had secured the necessary support in a ballot for industrial action. This is a national dispute with the government, regarding pay and school funding. I am writing to you today to reassure you about what might take place and what this will mean for your child.

Striking is the right of every teacher who is part of a union and is a personal choice, which we respect as a *school*. As the school's *Headteacher*, it is my primary responsibility to ensure our pupils receive the highest standard of education and care.

As a decision to strike has been made, we are now assessing the impact that this will have on our school. We are not always aware of precisely how many employees intend to join strike action. Individuals are not under any obligation to notify us in advance. That can make predicting the impact of action difficult. We hope to be able to remain open as much as possible during the strike, but we are aware that several of our staff are members of the NEU and that, consequently, some disruption is likely on the following planned dates:

- **1 February (whole country strike)**
- **1 March (East Midlands, West Midlands, Eastern)**
- **15 March (whole country strike)**
- **16 March (whole country strike)**

As you know, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our top priority so either we will be able to continue with the school day as normal or, if there are not enough staff to safely have students on site, we will undertake a partial school closure for some year groups or full closure for all year groups.

We will endeavour, where possible, regardless of industrial action to have sufficient staff onsite to welcome vulnerable children into the school, children of critical workers whilst prioritising students in *Years 2, 4 and 6* with external examinations this year.

We will write to you as soon as possible to communicate arrangements for Wednesday 1st February and will keep forward dates under review. We will keep you updated with any further important information that arises. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office or a member of our senior leadership team.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this time.
Kind regards



Mrs L Boucher
Headteacher



Together we dream, believe and achieve!