



Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School

Loved by God; United in Learning

Headteacher: Scott Tait Deputy Headteacher: Lizzie Sharpe

21st June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Strike Action at Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary School - Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023

I write further to our previous correspondence to update you on the progress of our contingency planning during the forthcoming strike action in schools.

Background

We have had confirmation from NEU that members of the union intend to take formal industrial action by participating in a strike which will take place on **Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July 2023**.

The strike action is in relation to a national dispute around teacher and school staff pay and funding for schools. We wanted to take this opportunity to further explain the dispute and to also outline the school's plans during the strike.

What is the dispute which has led to the strike about - As you may know, over last summer the Department for Education agreed to a 5% pay-rise for teachers. Teaching unions across England and Scotland, including NEU are in dispute with the Department for Education regarding their request for teachers' pay to keep up with inflation and the cost of living. Teachers are also taking this action as they believe that funding is currently not sufficient to enable schools to fund pay increases. The school will make any communication directly from the NEU available to parents through our school website. <https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view>

What will happen at the school during the strike?

- **We can confirm that school will be open for all children in Year 2 and Year 6 – scheduled trips will take place.**
- At this stage I can not confirm arrangements for all other year groups.
- Please consider cancelling hot school meal options for each of the days.

As a school we have been looking at how we can manage this situation, all strike action is likely to have a significant impact across schools.

In line with guidance we will share work linked to the Oak National Academy <https://classroom.thenational.academy/> so children can access home learning. We will also ensure that our children of critical workers (Annex B) and most vulnerable children are cared for (Annex A).

Lastly, we want to take this opportunity to reiterate that your child's education is important to all staff at Bishop Aldhelm's.

Yours faithfully

Mr Tait

Headteacher



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