

Auriol Junior School

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The Mead Infant and Nursery School

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24th January 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 dates throughout February and March. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and not because of any issues at our school.

Currently, only colleagues in the NEU can lawfully strike. Members of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) did vote for strike action but did not meet the turnout threshold of 50% required by law; however, NASUWT have announced that they plan to hold another ballot so we have to wait to see if this changes.

We are getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted as a result of this action.

The dates that will affect The Mead and Auriol are:

- Wednesday 1 February
- Thursday 2 March
- Wednesday 15 March
- Thursday 16 March

Staff that intend to take industrial action are not legally required to notify the school; however, we have invited staff to declare their intent to help us plan a response.

Based on the feedback we have received so far we do not anticipate the strikes having a significant impact on our schools.

However, if this changes we will inform you as soon as we are able to and would recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for the proposed dates listed above.

We are sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education. We understand that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Both The Mead and Auriol remain 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 will inform you of the final arrangements as soon as possible.

Further communications will be sent to parents and carers, once we have more information concerning staff intent to strike.

Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Creasey and Miss Williams

