



Dear parents/carers,

Re: Planned teaching union strike action

As many of you will be aware following widespread media coverage the national education union, the NEU, have declared strike action, the first day of which will take place on Wednesday 1 February 2023. 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.

All schools in Carmarthenshire, in conjunction with advice and guidance issued by the Local Authority, have undertaken a risk assessment regarding our capacity to open the school safely for pupils on the day of the strike. Having discussed and considered all the information available with the Chair of Governors, Mr. Jeremy Griffith, **we have made the difficult decision to close the school to pupils on Wednesday 1 February.** We are asking you not to send your child into school on this date as we cannot guarantee that we will have sufficient staff to operate the school in a way, which is safe for your children.

We have not taken this decision lightly. Nor do I underestimate the disruption that it will cause. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and feel that safety would be compromised given the number of staff we will have available on the strike day.

We regret that our pupils will experience disruption to their education on this day and that you will be required to make alternative arrangements for your child/children. We would ask, however, that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely alongside the Local Authority to keep up to date with the situation, including what arrangements can be made to provide lunch for those in receipt of Free School Meals on that day. Please note that the school **will not** be operating a 'care hub' type facility on that day. **Nor will teaching be provided online on that day.**

We will keep you updated of the situation through our normal communication channels. Information can also be found on the Carmarthenshire County Councils' website at:

www.Carmarthenshire.gov.uk

<https://schoolclosures.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/future-disruptions/>

The school will operate **as normal from Thursday February 2nd 2023.**

At this stage, the arrangements outlined in this letter will apply only to Wednesday February 1st, 2023. Should the dispute continue beyond that date, you will be notified of new arrangements ahead of each potential strike day. There are further planned strike days for 14th February, 15th and 16th March. Further information will follow regarding school operations for these days.

Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Dave Williams