

www.astreanetherwood.org Principal: Mr Jonny Mitchell



Thursday 19th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

## **Industrial Action by members of the NEU Union**

I am writing to provide some initial information about the industrial action which has been recently announced by members of the NEU Union.

The dates which have been announced which would affect schools in this region are as follows:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February
- Tuesday 28th February
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

The union remains in negotiations with the Department for Education to reach a settlement in the dispute which has led to this industrial action being announced.

Only members of staff who are members of the NEU are permitted to strike on the dates announced, as well as those who are not members of any Trades Union. Staff in the NASUWT, NAHT, GMB, Unison and ASCL unions are not currently taking strike action. I estimate that around 20% of staff here are likely to be involved in strikes.

The Government requires Principals and Headteachers to keep schools open as fully as possible during periods of industrial action, and we will be discussing how we can do this safely and effectively in the coming days. It is possible that the school will only be able to open partially, however we will do everything we can to ensure the school is open to all students. A decision will be made as soon as possible based on the numbers of striking staff.

It is important that parents and carers do not ring in to reception to ask for updates, as colleagues on the front desk have no further information until these decisions have been finalized. We aim to be able to confirm arrangements as soon as possible so alternative arrangements can be made should the school have to close partially.

Very best wishes

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Mr J Mitchell **Principal**