



31st January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Link Strike Action

Over the past weeks, we have been monitoring the situation with regard to numbers of staff striking. This has been a difficult task as staff are under no obligation to inform us of their intentions, nor are we legally allowed to ask them. It has always been our intention to remain open to as many pupils as possible.

Nevertheless, Headteachers have risk assessed the staffing levels in their schools for Wednesday, 1st February and have had to make decisions based on information available to us at this time, about availability of cover and pupil to adult ratios.

Therefore, at present, within the Link provision we are committed to staying open however we have two members of staff striking across our provision and four currently off due to COVID.

Teachers do not need to inform schools of their intentions and I am extremely grateful to those teachers who have indicated their decision in order that we can plan in advance and update parents ahead of time.

Due to the numbers of teachers striking, coupled with high levels of absence we will remain open for the whole day. However, the day for the children will look different and might be slightly out of routine. We will be hosting **Upper Link at the Middle School not in the Youth Centre** to ensure an appropriate staffing ratio.

Some staff might form a picket line outside the school. A picket line is gathering of staff near the entrance to a workplace to protest in person, they may be holding notice boards or banners. If that is the case, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all students and parents that as a school we respect our staff's legal right to strike. Please ensure that any interactions you have with staff are as courteous and respectful as they are on any other day.

I understand the concerns expressed by many of you and I am grateful for your understanding and support.

We will update you in the morning of any further changes, as early as we possibly can.

Thank you.

Mrs F Lord
Head of Provision

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