

Principal: Vicky Counsell

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Friday 24th February 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to you to give you an update on the ongoing industrial action being taken by members of the National Education Union. My original letter (dated 18th January) confirmed that there would be four days of industrial action taking place on February 1, March 2, 15 and 16. I wrote to you further on 27th January to confirm that some teachers at Begbrook would be taking part in industrial action on 1st February and outlined what provision the school would be able to make for some children to attend school.

As per my previous letters, I can confirm that **industrial action taking place on Thursday 2nd March** will result in disruption to the Begbrook Primary Academy routine, and some scheduled lessons will be unable to go ahead. Taking into account predicted staffing levels on the day, I can now share our plans for 2nd March. As ever, pupil wellbeing remains our priority, and careful risk assessments have been carried out to assess which lessons and activities can safely continue.

At Begbrook Primary Academy, the following will apply:

- **The school will be able to offer a number of places to children who meet the Department for Education criteria of being vulnerable learners** (eg, children with Education, Health and Care Plans) who need to be prioritised for places. The families of these children will be contacted directly by the school (today, via email) to confirm place offerings. These children will be placed in mixed-aged groups and carry out a range of activities throughout the day. They will also have a full lunch break and have the full lunchtime menu available to choose from on the day.
- **All Year 6 children** will be asked to attend school as usual and they will follow their usual timetable of learning for the full day. They will have their lunch break as usual and will have the full lunchtime menu available to choose from.

The school will be closed to all other year groups (including pre-school).

The school will be able to offer breakfast club and after-school club facilities for children who are attending school on 2nd March. These will need to be paid for in the usual way for any families wishing to use these facilities. Please log into ScoPay in the usual way to book your place and pay in advance.

Please note these arrangements may need to change ahead of subsequent strike dates. However, we will continue to work closely with our staff union representatives to keep up-to-date with the situation, and I will inform you of our plans for those days as soon as possible.

I am sure we all hope for a swift resolution to this dispute which will satisfy all parties. Until then, we recognise and respect the right of Begbrook Primary Academy staff to take part industrial action and ask that all members of our community continue to treat each other with respect. And while I understand this situation may be frustrating, your continued support for our school at this time is appreciated.

I do hope this has answered your questions and will allow you to plan ahead for any disruption. However, should you have any further questions, do please contact the school through the usual channels.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Counsell

Principal



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