



# Howard Primary School

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Industrial Action

You will likely have seen the news that the National Education Union, (NEU), has called for industrial action across schools in England and Wales over a series of days in the coming weeks. This action is in response to concerns about national pay and conditions.

Whilst the NEU is prepared for negotiations which might yet avert industrial action, if not averted, then our school may be affected by teachers on strike on **1<sup>st</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> March & 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

Please see the following excerpt from the NEU union 'Message to Parents and Carers':

*Teachers do not want to strike but the Government have given them no choice. They are striking for education and hope that you will support them despite the inconvenience it may cause.*

*Teachers are taking strike action because they are concerned that cuts to teachers pay, and lack of funding for schools, are causing a crisis in education. The value of teacher and support staff pay has fallen by 20% since 2010. This has caused a crisis in recruitment and retention. More teachers and school leaders than ever are leaving their jobs and the Government cannot recruit enough teachers to replace them. Funding for schools has not kept in line with rising costs. Schools are spending less on important equipment and resources.*

*The NEU are calling on the Government to increase pay for teachers and support staff and also increase funding for schools.*

The Leadership Team is gathering information, liaising with the Governors and Local Authority and planning ahead as best they can, so that we can prepare for the potential disruption that may be caused.

If strikes go ahead, it is unlikely that we would be able to guarantee adequate teaching or supervision for all pupils and, therefore, some classes would be likely to close.

This is **not yet confirmed**, but we shall confirm arrangements for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023, as soon as possible, and then provide further updates on the other scheduled days in due course.

We wanted to alert you to the potential disruption and we shall write to you again with further details as soon as we have further information.

Regards,

Miss J De Saulles  
Head Teacher

Mr J Robinson & Mr P Smith  
Co-Chairs of Governors



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