

24th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will be aware the National Education Union (NEU) are calling for their members to take industrial action in the form of strikes and the next one is scheduled for Thursday **March 2nd**. Staff who are members of the NEU are not legally obliged to inform the school of their intention to strike and this is the same for all schools. As you know Pathfield School relies upon a large amount of support staff to operate and whilst they will not be striking, they are affected by other school closures.

This has meant that we have again had to consider if we will have enough suitably qualified and experienced staff to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils.

All of these factors have been taken into account when risk assessing if Pathfield School can remain fully open.

The impact of the industrial action will be that the school will **partially close on each of the strike days**, with our **3 Post 16 classes** closing for the day on **March 2nd**. This is classes **The Bridge, The Hub** and **The Station**. We shall attempt to share the impact of any future closures across the school so that one group is not more affected than another.

This partial closure will allow us to deploy staff to meet the basic staff ratios across the school and maintain a safe environment.

For the students that remain in school there will be some disruption as not all the usual timetable curriculum activities will be able to run. There will be alternative activities provided and whilst classes may not have their usual staff there will be school staff in each class.

We are very aware that this partial school closure inconveniences parents and carers and so I am writing to give you as much advanced notice as soon as I have been able to.

The procedures will be reviewed following the strike action, so that we can communicate as best as possible, what will be happening on the next planned strike days of **March 15th** and **March 16th**.

Thank you for understanding and support with this,

Yours Faithfully,

Stuart Allman

Headteacher, Pathfield School