



# The Whartons Primary School

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Monday 23rd January 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers

## Industrial Action by members of the National Education Union

I'm sure you are aware of the recent ballots for industrial action by three major teaching unions (NEU, NASUWT and NAHT) in relation to the underfunding of school budgets. All three returned a strong majority in favour of action; however only the NEU ballot met the legal turnout threshold. As a result, The Whartons will see disruption on the following days:

- Wednesday, 1st February
- Tuesday, 28th February
- Wednesday, 15th March
- Thursday, 16th March

At The Whartons, we have taken the decision that, where teachers are following union advice and taking strike action, we will not be asking their colleagues to cover that absence. I will write to you before each day to confirm how the action affects each class.

On Wednesday, 1st February, this will mean two classes will definitely be open as usual and the other classes will probably be closed :

Reception	Open as usual
Year 1	Closed
Year 2	Closed
Year 3	Closed
Year 4	Closed
Year 5	Closed
Year 6	Open as usual

We regret the inconvenience caused and sincerely hope that by providing sufficient notice you will be able to make childcare arrangements to keep pupils safe. I would also advise all families to begin to think about contingency childcare plans for each further day of action, as a precautionary measure. We will keep you informed if there are any changes to the impact on classes.

The decision to take industrial action in this way is never an easy one for staff. These are exceptional times, and we can only hope that the dispute about pay and funding between unions and the Secretary of State for Education can be resolved speedily.

If you have any comments to make about the action at The Whartons, please direct them to me rather than to staff.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Dickson (Headteacher)

