



Ladygrove Park Primary School

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20th January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

RE: Teacher Strikes

You may be aware from media coverage that NEU (one of a number of school unions) have declared nationwide strike action, which will take place on 1st February, 15th and 16th March 2023. The union states that the strike is happening across the country because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over a fully funded, above inflation pay increase. The unions have explained that this means, although staff have recently had a pay rise, this has not been in line with inflation. It follows a decade of real term pay cuts, with schools not being given extra money to fund the rise, so it comes directly from the existing school funds.

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on the above dates. We're considering our options while navigating the complexities of strike action taken at a school. Other unions are advising staff not to cover colleagues. Therefore, an option might involve closing the school, based on the risk assessment that there are not an adequate number of staff onsite. Please also note that staff are not obliged to tell the school if they intend to strike, so plans might change at very short notice for the school.

For these reasons, we recommend that you tentatively start to make alternative childcare arrangements for the above dates.

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to respect individual views and circumstances. Ladygrove Primary School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will aim to inform you of the final arrangements 7 days before the planned action.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office at office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk. Please note that schools often hear about these situations at the same time as parents, through the news media. Further information filters through officially for us afterwards.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Markham
Headteacher

Oxfordshire Primary Education Network

Working together to provide an outstanding education for all our children

