



SAINT MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT

Principal: Mr P Gilchrist

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13th November 2023

Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, the Education Authority has been notified by the four Non-Teaching trade unions, UNISON, UNITE, NIPSA and GMB. that members across the organisation are being called to take part in strike action on Thursday 16th November 2023 in relation to a trade dispute linked to the EA Pay and Grading Review.

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. In this instance this affects our Secretarial Staff, Building Supervisor, Dinner Staff, Classroom Assistants, Break and Lunch Time supervisors and Cleaners.

A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which assesses the impact that the industrial action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

It has been determined that on Thursday 16th November the impact upon our school school will be:

1. **Nursery School** – Closed for full day on Thursday 16th November 2023.
2. **Learning Support Unit** – Closed for full day on Thursday 16th November 2023
3. **P1 through to P7 Classes in Main School** – Open for half day on Thursday 16th November and close at 12.00noon. There will be no Breakfast Club or After Schools Club on this particular day.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. Taking strike action is not something that anyone would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

Yours sincerely

Mr Gilchrist
Principal