

Tuesday 24th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware from media and social media coverage that the NEU teaching union has declared strike action, which is due to take place on:

- Wednesday 1st February 2023
- Thursday 2nd March 2023
- Wednesday 15th March 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, the lack of school funding, the current recruitment and retention crisis and the devastating impact this is having now and will continue to have in the future. It is not because of any issues at our school.

I'm writing to give you as much notice as possible that Ellen Wilkinson Primary School will therefore be closed on Wednesday 1st February.

This is likely to also happen on the other three dates if strike action continues, and therefore recommend that you start to make provisional alternative childcare arrangements for these dates as well.

Little Ellies childcare is unaffected and so will be open on these days.

I am 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 treat each other with respect.

EWPS remains committed to providing safe and secure environments for all children and delivering high-quality teaching and learning.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact the main office and ask to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

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Sue Ferguson

Headteacher