



19th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that following a ballot of NEU union members, it has now been confirmed that teachers will be holding four days of strikes in the South West. This action – which is the result of a dispute between the NEU and the Government and does not involve individual schools or Trusts – **will take place on February 1st, March 2nd and provisionally on March the 15th and 16th 2023.**

There are a number of other teaching unions that are not due to strike at this point, as members did not vote in favour of this action in sufficient numbers. Therefore, the impact on schools in the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership of this strike action by one teaching union, is likely to vary from school to school. This is because each school in the Trust has a different proportion of staff who belong to the NEU.

Naturally, you will have plenty of questions about the action and what this will mean for you and your child. At this point I have committed to keeping all of our schools open, at least for the most vulnerable children. In some of our schools there could be very little disruption and all children will be able to attend as normal. In other schools this may not be possible, as there may be insufficient numbers of teaching staff present to have all children on site safely. Individual schools are planning at a local level depending on the likely disruption at each school. In due course, Headteachers will write to you and confirm arrangements.

I appreciate this could have a knock-on impact to your own work and family schedule. I understand that it will be inconvenient for many parents and carers, as well as disrupting the education of pupils. As I have indicated, we will try to minimise the disruption where possible.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kind regards

Alun Williams
CEO

