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Dear Parents & Guardians,

Monday 27th February 2023

**Strike action by members of the National Education Union
Thursday 2nd March 2023**

I am writing regarding the National Education Union (NEU) strike on Thursday this week. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school, which I anticipate being the same as the previous strike.

How will strike action affect Newlands?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. This means that those teachers involved in the action will not teach their class(es) or undertake any other duties on a strike day.

It is therefore incumbent upon me to consider the impact that industrial action will have on the operation of the school. One of the key issues is to assess whether there are sufficient staff available for the school to remain open, or partially open, during a strike.

To determine whether this school can remain fully or partially open, a detailed risk assessment has been conducted. This considers the impact that the 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.

As Headteacher, with the information available to me at the moment, I believe the school can remain open to all pupils (however, this is subject to change). This should be achieved with only minor disruption to the learning of children and no adverse effect on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors.

There are two further strike days that are likely to affect schools in this area: Wednesday 15 March and Thursday 16 March 2023.

The NEU has posted a document for parents, carers and grandparents that explains their reasons for taking strike action. It can be found at <https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view> if you wish to read it.

Yours sincerely

Mr W. Neighbour
Headteacher