



Woodmancote School  
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26<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As has been highlighted in the media, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its members whom are teachers, will be taking industrial action in Gloucestershire on the following dates:

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

It is important to stress that this potential industrial action is only being called by NEU members and not all teachers, as some of the media has been reporting.

The strike days have been called over concerns amongst its members about the chronic underfunding of teachers and the impact that this is having on recruitment and retention of staff to the profession nationally. This action on these days has been supported by a ballot of eligible members and has subsequently met the legal threshold in terms of numbers of votes for the strike.

I ask that we respect the decision of any teacher who decides to take industrial action. Their action is focused on the Government and colleagues are not expected to engage in discussions about these decisions with parents.

It is possible that action on these days could be called off, if an agreement between the Government and the union can be found. However, if this is not the case, it is likely that there will be significant disruption on these days, including closing the school to some year groups. It is my intention to keep the school open to as many students as possible on these days, if safe to do so.

There are a significant number of teaching staff at Woodmancote School that are members of the NEU. These staff are not obliged to share their intention to strike ahead of the nominated days. However, many have already done so, to allow parents to plan ahead.

Therefore, unless there is a resolution before next Week the following classes will not be open for children next Wednesday: **Fir, Lime, Holly, Hazel, Yew, Sycamore, Rowan.**



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Can I respectfully ask parents to not engage with staff about the action that they are taking, but that if there are any queries, to direct them to me at [head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

Whilst respecting the right for sanctioned industrial action by teacher members of the NEU to highlight their concerns regarding pay and the negative impact this is having on recruitment and retention of teachers, I do appreciate that these strike days will be disruptive to many in our school community.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours faithfully

**Mr G Tucker**  
**Headteacher**