

St. Catherine's Primary School

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12th January 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

Full day of strike action by School Staff on 18 January

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the Education Staff Trade Unions in Northern Ireland. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and we wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

How will strike action affect St. Catherine's Nursery and Primary school?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. Staff members involved in the action will, therefore, not undertake any duties on 18 January. A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which 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.

Therefore, the Board of Governors has determined the school will be **closed for all pupils on THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024** and will reopen as usual on **FRIDAY 19 JANUARY 2024**

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. We would ask you, however, to be understanding. This is a direct result of the failure to take into account the very real concerns expressed by Education Staff. 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.

We thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding in this matter.

Kind Regards

Mrs Bridget Wilders
Principal / Secretary to Governors

Mrs Berni Allen
Chair of Governors



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