



# Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN

*"Engage, Enjoy, Enrich, Excel"*



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the National Education Union (NEU) has announced details of potential strike action by teaching staff in schools over the next few months. In a statement from NEU (16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023), they report that 'This is not about a pay rise but correcting historic real-terms pay cuts in the midst of a cost-of-living crisis'.

At present, the potential strike days for our region are:

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

The NEU says 23,400 schools will be impacted across England and Wales. This is perhaps not surprising, given that 121,253 members voted 'yes' for strikes and therefore be expected to take part. By contrast, only 12,811 voted 'no'. Not enough members of two other unions voted in favour, however there is likely to be a re-ballot shortly.

The decision to open, restrict attendance, or close our school is not taken lightly. We are looking to take all reasonable steps to keep the school open for as many pupils as possible; however, following Leeds City Council's health and safety risk assessment; it is highly likely that our school is unable to meet safe thresholds for cover and may well have to close some classes. Staff employed under the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document cannot be compelled to provide cover for other teachers during industrial action.

I will inform you, once I know which classes will be affected. In the meantime, it is best for all families to start to plan ahead in seeking alternative childcare arrangements for strike days, in order to help minimise disruption for you all.

### Remote Education

Classes that close will be directed to the school website, where there will be links to support pupils' learning online.

Thank you

Mr Edensor (on behalf of the Governing Board).

**Headteacher- Mr. N. Edensor**

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**Part of the Leodis Schools Alliance**