

ELMFIELD SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN

PRIMARY & EARLY YEARS

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Headteacher:
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SECONDARY

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24th January 2023

Dear parents/carers,

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU have declared strike action, which will take place on Wednesday 1st February 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

Striking is the right of every teacher who is part of a union and is a personal choice which we respect as a school. By law employees who are striking are not required to inform their employer whether or not they are striking. Consequently, it means that we will not know our exact staffing position until the day of the strike and so must plan ahead accordingly.

Therefore, I'm sorry to inform you that Elmfield School for Deaf Children will be closed on February 1st. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day.

We have not taken this decision lightly. But due to long distances which our pupils travel, and the uncertainty about staffing, we need to make this difficult decision. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and feel that we would be potentially unable to provide this with the staff we could have available.

I'm sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact me via the school office email.

Kind regards,

Kate Persaud



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