



Parental Information and Update

Proposed Strike Action Days of 6th, 7th and 8th September

Learning & Teaching arrangements

1st September 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer

As you will now know, the proposed strike action on the 6th, 7th and 8th September will mean that Giffnock Primary School (including our nursery) will be closed on these days. This decision has been made by the authority and applies across our authority's schools. Staff have also been advised that school premises will not be open. We have re-attached the letter from our Director of Education for your reference, along with this letter.

This creates a very challenging three days, both in terms of our children's learning and our families arrangements, and I am sorry for the difficulties that I know this will cause for many of you.

Following authority guidance being shared yesterday to all of our schools, I write here to clarify for you our arrangements for home learning next week. Teaching teams across all of our ERC schools will be providing learning activities for children on a very similar structure and basis as you might have expected.

Firstly, we understand how challenging it is to balance work commitments and existing family arrangements with this sudden change for next week. Whilst we will provide learning activities for the three days, we do understand the challenges you may have in supporting home learning. We know that our families and children will complete the learning activities that they can and we thank you in advance for your support and partnership.

During the last three school sessions we have developed digital structures which we can now use for this situation. Our P1-7 classes have their own Google Classroom set up already and we will use these as the place to communicate through during the three days next week. Whilst our teaching team will be working from home and therefore unable to speak over the phone with you, questions about learning activities and indeed any important messages can be shared on a confidential, 'direct' basis there if needed. Video-calls or 'live' lessons may not be used in any of our ERC schools for these days, so we will therefore not be utilising these formats.

The following notes clarify an overview of expectations for the three days:

- We would ask that all of our children check into their Google Classrooms as soon after 08:55 as is reasonably possible, on each of the three days. This is a nice time for the children to post a short 'hello' message to their teacher and peers. The learning activities for the day ahead will be available from 08:55 each morning, with families then able to decide on the order and timings that work best for them.
- During the day, our teachers will check into the Google Classroom to answer any questions or issues that our children may have. Of course, replies to questions may



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not be immediate however we intend to be able to do this for all of the children during the course of the day.

- Our teachers will be available during the normal school day and hours, i.e. from 08:55 to 15:00.
- Most of our children are already using their Google Classrooms this week for homework and are therefore very familiar with how they 'work'. Our teachers will be spending extra time with the children before next Tuesday, in order to further discuss and clarify the activities that they will be doing.
- For all of the classes, there will be a mixture of electronic and physical/ paper-based learning activities. This will vary somewhat across the age ranges of the children, however all of our children will be bringing home at least some basic resources in their bags on Monday 5th September (paper, jotters, a pencil, etc.).
- During prior lockdown periods and through dialogue with our Parent Council at that time, we know that some activities that can be completed as independently as possible can be very helpful for our families, so our teachers are planning with this in mind.
- For each class, a range of subject areas across the curriculum may be shared. This will match the sorts of curricular areas that would have been in class in school, as best as possible. We do understand that certain aspects of the curriculum, for example PE, may be difficult for you to support in a home situation, so again our teachers will plan with this in mind.
- We will not issue additional homework next Monday as usual but rather build that aspect of learning into the learning provided for home.
- Should you have concerns about having no digital access at home, please just get in touch through our school office so that we can speak further on this.
- Our 'Home Learning' pages remain available through our website and you can easily access these using the icons to the right on the home page, or as below. These provide a very wide range of excellent links, webpages and Apps for your child to explore and extend their learning through. Our teachers may reference some of these specifically, however they may well be very useful for you to have also:

[Home Learning - School](#)

[Home Learning – Nursery](#)

[Giffnock Primary School Website](#)



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- For our nursery class and where the Google Classroom format is less appropriate, we will again use home learning bags and other physical materials, alongside information through our Home Learning pages and our nursery class Twitter feed

We understand that the three days will present individual issues and challenges. If you do have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch through our school office on 0141-570-7182 in advance of Tuesday and we will do all that we can to help.

Thank-you in advance, and as always, for your partnership at this time.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Lawson'.

Rob Lawson

Head Teacher