

TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S
SERVICES**

Shelagh McLean

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31 October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Industrial action effecting Fife Primary (including their associated nursery classes), Secondary and Special Schools; Pupil Support Classes; Pupil Support Centres and Childcare Services is planned on Wednesday 8th November 2023.

I want to bring to your attention that although GMB and Unite Trade Union members have accepted the current Local Government pay offer, Unison Trade Union members have rejected this and Fife Council has received a statutory mandate from them planning industrial action on Wednesday 8th November 2023.

Unison represents our Early Years Officers, Pupil Support Assistants, Admin & Clerical staff, Catering & Cleaning staff and Janitorial staff; therefore, this industrial action will create significant disruption to many of our education settings.

We won't know in advance how many of our school-based staff will join the planned strike action on this date. However, we do know that 89.92% of those Unison Trade Union members voting, voted in favour of action, so we expect a high level of participation and, therefore, school closures to children.

We are working with our schools to determine if any will be in a position to open safely to children on Wednesday the 8th November 2023. Where the risk assessment determines that this is not possible, your school/setting will notify you directly.

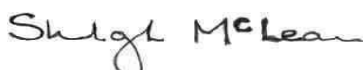
Should we need to make the difficult decision to close some of our educational establishments and a school setting is closed to children & young people, remote learning will be in place, with this being provided by class teachers over the day of industrial action. In addition, pupils will have access to a wide range of online learning resources and educational games, and most senior pupils will have work and study they can continue with, on their own, at home.

Once again, we will need to review arrangements relating to school meals and details will be issued through individual establishments.

If the action goes ahead all settings will reopen as normal on Thursday, 9th November.

We'll update parents immediately when a decision regarding opening to pupils on this date is made, if the dispute is resolved, plans change or further action is notified.

Yours faithfully,



Shelagh McLean
Head of Service, Education & Children's Services