COMMUNITIES & EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

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22 December 2022



Dear Parent/Carer,

Industrial Action by Teachers in the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS), the Association of Headteachers and Deputes of Scotland (AHDS), the Scottish Secondary Teachers Association (SSTA) and the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT).

This letter provides an update on the ongoing national dispute over teachers' pay. We have received formal notifications of further strike action throughout January, which will impact on the Council's ability to maintain service continuity, if these strikes go ahead as planned.

Tuesday 10 January 2023

Strike action is planned for members of the EIS, AHDS and NASUWT unions, affecting primary schools and special schools. Given the significant number of staff members of these unions, and an assessment of health and safety and other operational factors, we have concluded that it will be necessary to close all primary schools, Garnock Campus (primary) and Lockhart Campus on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

Early Years service provision will also be significantly affected on this date. All early years classes will be closed with the exception of the following classes and centres, which will be open as normal on Tuesday 10 January:

| Abbey Primary EYC | Annick Primary EYC | Ardeer Primary EYC |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beith Primary EYC | Caledonia Primary EYC | Castlepark EYC |
| Dalry EYC | Fairlie Primary EYC | Garnock CC EYC |
| Glencairn Primary EYC | Hayocks Primary EYC | Kilwinning EYC |
| Lamlash Primary EYC | Loudoun-Montgomery EYC | Largs EYC |
| Springside Primary EYC | Springvale EYC | St Bridget's Primary EYC |
| St John Ogilvie Primary EYC | St Luke's Primary EYC | St Peter's Primary EYC |
| Stanley Primary EYC | Woodlands Primary EYC | |

All secondary schools will be open as normal on Tuesday 10 January.

Wednesday 11 January 2023

Strike action is planned for members of the EIS, SSTA and NASUWT unions, affecting secondary schools. Again, given the significant number of staff members of these unions, and an assessment of health and safety and other operational factors, we have concluded that it will be necessary to close all secondary schools and Garnock Campus (secondary) on Wednesday 11 January 2023.

There may be disruption to some classes at Lockhart Campus on Wednesday 11 January. The Head Teacher will contact parents and carers with further information if this is the case.

All primary schools and Early Years Classes/Centres will be open as normal on Wednesday 11 January.

Tuesday 17 January 2023

Strike action is planned for members of the EIS and AHDS unions, affecting all schools. Our current assessment of health and safety and other operational factors is that it will be necessary to close all North Ayrshire schools on Tuesday 17 January 2023, with only limited early years provision being open (involving the same classes and centres as outlined above for 10 January).

Free school meals for pupils affected by strike action (all dates)

On the days of strike action, where pupils are affected by school closures, packed lunches will be provided to any affected pupils entitled to a free school meal. Children and/or parents affected by school closures are encouraged to go to their own school (or nearest secondary school) that day between 11.00am and 1.00pm where they can collect a packed lunch.

You will appreciate that this is a developing situation and efforts continue to be made to keep as many schools as possible open on the strike days. Should anything change prior to the announced strike days, we will ensure you are informed as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Andrew McClelland

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Head of Service (Education)

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