

Educational Services

Assistant Director of Education: Scott Mulholland

County Buildings
Wellington Square
Ayr
KA7 1DR



Our Ref: LMCR/SM/LD Your Ref:
Date: 15 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I write to inform you that South Ayrshire Council has received official notification of strike action from the Trade Unions of Unison and GMB, which represent local government staff employed by the Council.

It is proposed that the industrial action will take place over three consecutive days on 26th, 27th and 28th September 2023. Our aim as always, is to ensure a safe environment for our staff and young people and to maintain continuity of learning where possible.

Staff affected includes cleaners, janitors, pupil support staff, administration staff, technical staff and catering staff. Regretfully, given the extent of the action, on this occasion all primary and secondary schools as well as Invergarven School and Southcraig Campus will be closed to pupils on the three strike days.

All early years centres, with the exception of a small number of stand-alone centres, will also close.

The following centres will be open and should operate as normal:

- Cherry Tree Early Years Centre
- Space Place Early Years Centre
- Wallacetown Early Years Centre

I understand that the industrial action will cause significant disruption to the learning of our children and young people and that families will have to make alternative arrangements for childcare during these days. I am sorry for the inconvenience this will cause.

For those pupils who are eligible to receive free school meals and have completed an application, a payment of £2:50 will be made to the main parent/carer to help meet the costs of a meal during the closure.

While the Council has been formally notified by trade unions of their intention to strike, there is also the possibility that through ongoing negotiations the strike may not take place. Educational Services will keep you informed as the situation develops through the Council website. www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk and via our social media channels.

Your child's school will contact you to outline arrangements that they are able to put in place for learning activities on the days of industrial action.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'S. Mulholland'.

Assistant Director – Education