



Greenhaw Primary and Nursery School

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Principal: Mr S. McLaughlin

Day of strike action by Teaching and Non-Teaching staff on Thursday 18th January 2024

The Education Authority (EA) has warned of expected disruption to some school services because of industrial action notified by the unions UNISON (classroom assistants, caretaking and secretarial staff) NIPSA (cleaning staff) and GMB (canteen staff) and INTO, NAHT, NASUWT, NEU and UTU (Teaching staff).

This action will consist of a full day of strike action on Thursday 18th January 2024. I am writing to you to outline the expected impact on our school.

How will strike action affect Greenhaw Primary and Nursery School?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. A detailed risk assessment to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike has been conducted and it considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors and whether the school should close, or can run a full or amended curriculum. For your information, the following services will be withdrawn as a result of the strike:

- Teachers will strike and as a result, there will be no classroom teaching and / or supervision of children.
- Canteen staff will strike and therefore will not be able to provide meals.
- Classroom Assistants will strike and, as a result, there will be inadequate provision of playground/canteen cover or assistance in class for all of our children.
- Buildings Supervisor/Caretaker will strike and therefore will not be available to securely open and close the school, provide maintenance assistance, liaise with outside agencies, supervise/perform cleaning duties.
- Cleaners are also included in the unions on strike that day.

As a result of this risk assessment, the Board of Governors and I have determined the following:

Greenhaw Primary and Nursery School Primary will be closed to pupils on Thursday 18th January 2024

Clearly, this is a difficult situation, which will cause disruption. I ask you, however, to be understanding. Strike action is very unusual and taking the step of strike action is not something that any member of the school staff undertakes lightly.

Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

The staff in our school are invaluable to the learning, development and safeguarding of your children and I, along with the Board of Governors, feel strongly that they should be paid fairly for the essential and very challenging jobs that they do.

Yours sincerely,

Shaun McLaughlin

Shaun McLaughlin
Principal.