

Executive Director of Education
Douglas Hutchison

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Date 19 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Potential school closures due to ongoing industrial action - 10, 11 & 16 January 2023

I wanted to write to you ahead of the Christmas and New Year holidays to let you know about planned strikes by several teacher unions.

Since the dates are at the beginning of the new term, it does not give us much time when the schools return to let you know about potential disruption.

However, the unions have notified the Council of their intention to take part in industrial action on the following dates affecting primary and secondary schools on different days.

The planned strike days are as follows:

Tuesday 10 January 2023: All Primary schools, including ASL primary schools

Wednesday 11 January 2023: All secondary schools, including ASL secondary schools

Monday 16 January 2023 – Primary and Secondary schools, including ASL schools.

If nothing changes in the next few weeks, it is likely that our schools will be closed to pupils on the above dates, as we have no way of knowing in advance how many staff will be reporting for work. In addition, different unions have coordinated their action this time to take place on the same days.

Our intention is that nursery classes and standalone nurseries will open as normal.

I know that this uncertainty is far from ideal and will mean that you may need to make alternative arrangements at short notice once again.

I apologise once again for a situation that is beyond the Council's control, since pay negotiations take place at a national level. Thank you for your understanding during this difficult period.

As always, we will continue to keep you informed as soon as we have any new information and will update the Council's normal communication channels.

Yours sincerely

**DOUGLAS HUTCHISON**Executive Director of Education

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