24Th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers.

You will I am sure, be aware from media coverage that the teaching union, NEU, have declared strike action, which will take place on several different dates. However, the first one is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, February 1st 2023. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers’ pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

I’m getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on February 1st. Further strike dates are set for our region on February 28th and there are further national dates in March. We’re considering several options, including partial opening and full closure.

We recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for these dates.

I’m sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child’s education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, but I am confident that all members of our school community will continue to treat each other with respect during a very difficult time. Springwater School, remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching. Decisions to close will be made for health and safety reasons – according to what staffing is available. Of course, a potential consequence of wide-ranging strike action in schools could be that those staff who are parents may also experience child care issues on strike days, further disrupting the staffing available to safely open school.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you of the final arrangements as soon as possible.

Final arrangements for the first day of planned action (February 1st 2023) will be provided in writing to all families on Friday January 27th 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Edwards at head@springwater.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Kind regards,

Sarah Edwards

Head Teacher