



# BATCHLEY FIRST SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mrs S Downes

Worcestershire County Council Education Department

8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents /Carers

This is the update regarding the planned forthcoming teacher strikes of the National Education Union (NEU) across the country and regionally.

The dates that will be affected are: Wednesday 15th March & Thursday 16th March 2023.

On these days striking teachers will not be available to teach lessons, take registrations or supervise during breaks. Additionally, teachers in other unions are not allowed to cover for striking staff in any way by taking their classes, doubling up and making larger groups or any other actions that are deemed to be undermining the planned industrial action of NEU members.

I indicated in my communication last week that there may be some disruption. Having now received further information I can confirm that school **will be closed on both days**. Having assessed the potential impact of teachers from not attending for work and ensuring that all health & safety implications are managed across the schools the depleted staff teams are unable to safely function.

We will be contacting the parents/carers of all looked after children (LAC), those on child Protection Plans (CP), Child in Need Plans (CIN) and those with Educational Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) to offer them access to school on these days if they require it.

The decision to close a school is never taken lightly, but in this instance, where staff have taken lawful industrial action, we have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health and well-being of our pupils.

If your child is entitled to a free school meal (FSM) we will send a separate form if you wish to collect a meal on these days.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Mrs S Downes  
Headteacher

*At Batchley we are all VIPS - Valued, Inspired, Progressing, Secure*