

Executive Headteacher: Mr Stephen Snelson Head of School: Mrs Rachel Watts Assistant Headteacher: Miss Jessica Hall / Mrs Polly Press Copt Oak Road, Narborough, Leicestershire LE19 3EF

17th February 2023

### Dear Parents and Carers,

## Strike action by members of the National Education Union

I am writing to you about the second day of planned industrial action by the National Education Union (NEU), one of the main teaching trade unions. I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

### How will strike action affect Red Hill Field Primary School?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. This means that those teachers involved in the action will not teach their class or undertake any other duties on a strike day.

It is therefore incumbent upon me to consider the impact that industrial action will have on the operation of the school. One of the key issues is to assess whether there are sufficient staff available for the school to remain open, or partially open, during a strike. Staff who are not striking may be unable to come to work if their own children are affected by the strike action at other schools.

To determine whether this school can remain fully or partially open, a comprehensive risk assessment has been conducted. This considers the impact that the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike.

As Executive Headteacher, I and the local governors with support from Learn Academies Trust have decided the school will be closed to all pupils on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. We will continue to consider our response to the remaining proposed strike dates on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.



Telephone: 0116 284 1500 Email: office@rhf.learnat.uk Web: redhillfield.com Y@redhillfield

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# Families of children we have identified as vulnerable will be contacted separately to discuss the possibility of on-site provision.

We are aware that there are several families where parents work in critical roles who might require emergency on-site provision. If you work in the emergency services (police, fire, ambulance) or in a patient facing medical role (nurse, doctor, occupational therapist, etc.) and have no alternative childcare available, please complete this <u>form</u>. If you have more than one child in school, you will need to complete a separate form for each. We will endeavour to make provision for those pupils who meet the above criteria but can only do so if we have sufficient staff to provide safe supervision. **Please note that this is provision for those in critical roles who cannot make alternative childcare arrangements**.

Before and after school club provision will not be available.

### **Remote learning**

Remote learning will be set for pupils and delivered via email to parents and carers on the evening before the day of the strike. We recognise that it will be challenging for some families to complete this work, but it is available for those who can.

If your child is entitled to a Free School Meal (not a universal infant free school meal) please can you email the office as soon as possible if you would like to collect a packed lunch from school. These will be available to collect during Wednesday lunchtime.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. A national strike by teachers is very unusual. Taking strike action is not something that any teacher would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the days that they are on strike.

Yours faithfully

Steve Snelson Executive Headteacher



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