



*Learning together, growing together*

Dorin Park School and Specialist SEN College

15.02.23

## **Second NEU Strike Day and Dorin Park School – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I'm sure you are aware, we have the second NEU Teachers' Strike Action day coming up after half term on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**.

As on the 1<sup>st</sup> February, the planned action is as a result of a national dispute between the unions and the government, and not against Dorin Park School. However it is important that we respond accordingly in the interests of the students whilst respecting the rights of all staff.

In accordance with this, **Dorin Park School will be closed to all but a small group of our most vulnerable pupils on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. This decision is based on a risk assessment of the number of staff in school and the needs of children and families. **All pupils on our vulnerable list have been notified via text.**

Our teachers have kindly been clear with us about their intentions, and this has helped us to plan for the day taking into account the complex needs of our pupils and their families. This risk assessment also takes into account the availability of support staff whose young children are affected by strike action in their own schools, and the current level of staff sickness absence.

As I'm sure you know, the vast majority of schools locally are closing some or all of their classes as a consequence of the strike. Being an SEN school makes all these elements harder to manage than a typical mainstream school and our priority is the health and safety of the students first and foremost. On 1<sup>st</sup> February, around 70% of special schools in England were closed or partially closed as a result of the strike action.

We appreciate that industrial action is disruptive. We will of course continue to monitor the arrangements in place and make modifications where possible for future strike days.

To this end, whilst we know that parents will support the strike action, as you understand that the continual underfunding of schools has had a huge impact not just on staff but on pupils and families too, **please advise us if you feel we have overlooked an aspect of your child's or family's vulnerability**, to enable us to take this into account when planning for this and future strike action days. You can contact [parentcomms@dorinpark.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:parentcomms@dorinpark.cheshire.sch.uk) or call and speak to Maxine Nevitt, our Family Liaison Officer, on the school number.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Lee  
Headteacher

**Head Teacher – Lucy Lee**

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