



RC/JAE

28 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to my letter dated 30 January 2023 regarding strike action by members of the NEU Teachers' Union, I now have a clearer picture of the extent of the industrial action and have completed a risk assessment of our capacity to run the school safely and effectively without striking members.

Based on the information to hand and the potential outcome of a number of members who have declared their intentions, I have decided to partially close the school to pupils on **Thursday 2 March 2023**.

Pupils in Years 11, 10 and 7 will be in school for the day. Pupils in Years 8 and 9 will be set work by non-striking teachers either physically, before the strike day, or via ClassCharts.

The pupils who are eligible for a free school meal will be able to collect a packed lunch from 12.30 pm by waiting in main reception.

We will be able to offer provision to some pupils in Years 8 and 9 if essential. This would not be a regular timetable but pupils would be provided with a safe and supervised space to complete work.

If you believe you will need to access this essential provision on **Thursday 2 March 2023**, please email Mrs Tonks on h.tonks@portchester.hants.sch.uk or call on 023 9236 4399.

There are further days of industrial action planned for March and I will let you know our plans for these days closer to the given dates. They are:

- **Wednesday 15 March 2023**
- **Thursday 16 March 2023**

The dispute is between teaching unions and central government and not locally between staff and schools. Talks are ongoing and we hope for a resolution soon. I understand that this may cause significant disruption to families, but I hope to give you as much notice as possible of any further action.

Yours sincerely


Mr R Carlyle
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mr R Carlyle BEd (Hons)

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