



RC/JAE

30 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to my letter dated 26 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 small number of members who have declared their intentions, I have decided to close the school to pupils on **Wednesday 1 February 2023**.

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.

Those teachers not taking part in strike action will set work to be completed on the day. This will be in the form of physical work given to pupils or work set via Teams and/or ClassCharts.

We may be able to offer provision to some pupils 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 **Wednesday 1 February 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:

- Thursday 2 March 2023
- 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

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