

Portsdown Primary School and Early Years
Sundridge Close,
Cosham, Portsmouth,
Hampshire PO6 3JL
Tel: 023 9237 8991



Headteacher: Mr A Vaghela

31st January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware from my previous communications the membership of the NEU has voted to take industrial action in schools across the country. This will take the form of strike action and the first day of this action is due to take place tomorrow, Wednesday 1st February 2023. **You will need to make arrangements for any last minute changes.**

The industrial action is a result of a national dispute between the NEU and the government and is not specific to our school. The overwhelming majority of schools locally and nationally will be impacted but each school will have different arrangements for pupils due to the number of members of its staff who are likely to strike.

The current situation is as follows. **Please be mindful that the information below may change at the last minute and some classes could open and some could close, meaning that you may have to come back to school to pick up your child.** We will use [Studybugs](#), [the school website](#) and [our School Facebook Pages](#) to keep you informed.

Classes OPEN	Classes CLOSED
Both rooms in our Nursery Mrs Ayers (PIC) Mrs Corps (RRC) Mrs Riches (2BR) Mrs Tyler (4DT) Mrs King (6VK) Miss Metherell (6NM)	All other classes

Please be aware that employees are not required to inform me if they intend to strike in advance and we will only be able to confirm our actual position of the morning of the day itself. Furthermore, as it is a day of national action, closures of other schools may affect our staffing levels as well, compromising staff ratios, provision of medial support and lunchtime supervision. Under Union and Government 'rules' I am not allowed to ask other staff to cover striking teacher's classes. Again, this will not be known until tomorrow morning.

I will undertake a risk assessment on the morning and if any of the information in the above box changes I will let you know as soon as possible via Studybugs, the school website and our School Facebook Page.

Important Lunch Information

For children in school, they will be able to order lunch as usual.

For children who are in Years R, 1 and 2 or any child who is entitled to benefit related free school meals, they can come into school for hot dinners (not packed lunch). If your child does not meet these criteria we will have to send them back home with you.

If the above applies, you will need to order their dinner on SCOPAY **BEFORE** midnight tonight. KS1 children should arrive at 12pm and be picked up at 12.30pm. KS2 children should arrive at 12.25pm and be picked up at 12.50pm.

Breakfast and afterschool club

If your child's class is open and you have booked for Breakfast club, they may attend. If your child's class is closed, please do not send them into Breakfast club.

Farlington Wrap Around is open tomorrow as usual.

If the industrial action continues beyond Wednesday 1st February 2023, we will write to you again with an update on our plans for dealing with this. Other possible strike dates are 2nd March, 15th March and 16th March. You may want to start to consider alternative child care for these dates.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Ash Vaghela, Headteacher