



Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **NEU Strike Action on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

As many of you will be aware, the NEU (National Education Union) have voted for continued strike action on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023. This is the result of a national pay dispute between the NEU and the government - it is not due to any actions taken by the school. Some teachers who are members of the NEU union will be taking strike action next week. I am writing to provide more information about what this means for our school.

Please know that in preparing for strike action, we must consider the fact that there is no requirement for a union to inform their employer which or how many staff will take strike action and union members are under no obligation to inform employers of their union membership, or to inform employers in advance of their intention to strike.

I have received notification from all staff today. For those classes that we are not able to open, we regret to inform you that we must restrict attendance to the school on the above days again in line with government advice, and after consultation with our Local Governing Body and Trust, will prioritise attendance to all our pupil premium group.

The following will be in place for next week: **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March only as the school will remain fully open on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

| Year Group | Class        | Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023        |
|------------|--------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 5/6        | Johnson      | Open (all pupils in class to attend)         |
| 6          | Ormrod       | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 6          | Rashford     | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 4/5        | Asher-Smith  | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 4/5        | Attenborough | Open (all pupils in class to attend)         |
| 4/5        | Packham      | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 4/5        | Benjamin     | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 2/3        | Brunel       | Open (all pupils in class to attend)         |
| 2/3        | Bonetta      | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 2/3        | Stocker      | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 2/3        | Seacole      | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 2/3        | Shaftesbury  | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| EYFS /1    | Squirrels    | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| EYFS       | Otters       | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| EYFS       | Owls         | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 1          | Hedgehogs    | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |
| 1          | Badgers      | Closed (only open to pupil premium children) |

**Bowhill Primary School**

Buddle Lane

Exeter

EX4 1JT

Tel: 01392 206585

Email: [admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowhill.devon.sch.uk)[www.bowhill.devon.sch.uk](http://www.bowhill.devon.sch.uk)

If your child is not able to attend, we apologise for the inconvenience and understand any frustration you may feel – the decision has not been taken lightly and is due to reduced staffing numbers which means we can only assure the safety and wellbeing of a limited number of pupils on these days. Remote work will be set for pupils who have to remain at home and this will be available on the school's website for your child to access.

We regret that this action is necessary and are aware of the impact that this will have upon your family. However, it is a decision felt strongly enough by the teaching staff to support a stand in wanting to improve education for all children.

We will keep you up-to-date with any further news. In the event that negotiations between the government and the NEU see the strikes called off or postponed, the school will be able to open as normal on this date.

If you have any questions, please contact the office, thank you so much for your help and understanding during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Dentith  
Headteacher