



20th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware from coverage in the media that one of the main teaching unions, the NEU, has indicated their intention to take strike action on several dates in the next couple of months. The first day of strikes is scheduled for Wednesday 1st February. The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over teachers' pay and the impact that it is having on schools due to difficulties in recruiting and retaining high quality staff. With the pressures on staffing and school budgets the concerns are that it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide the quality of provision for pupils in England and Wales. I am sorry to inform you that Polesden Lacey Infant School will be closed on 1st February. We are asking you not to send your child into school on this day.

We have not taken this decision lightly. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils, and feel that we would be unable to provide this with the staff we have available. Teachers who are striking will not be working on this date and will not be paid.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely with our staff union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further. I have also advised our Chair of Governors of our intention to strike and the decision to close the school to pupils on 1st February. If you have any questions, please contact me either in person or via office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rebecca Mole'.

Ms. Rebecca Mole, Headteacher

Head Teacher: Ms Rebecca Mole