



## HOLY SOULS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

"a place where we pray together and everyone is important"

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Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Girling



A St. Teresa of Calcutta  
Multi Academy Company  
School

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Strike arrangements for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023

As you are aware the NEU (National Education Union) have announced 4 days of strikes during February and March, with the first one taking place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

**Holy Souls Catholic Primary School remains open on Wednesday February 1<sup>st</sup> for all children. We expect all children in school as normal.**

Obviously, this is an ever-changing situation and other teaching unions are reballoting members and if the required threshold is reached it may mean we have multiple unions striking at the same time. Should this be the case you will be informed in due course.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on [enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely,

*R. A. Girling*

Mrs R A Girling

Head Teacher



# ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA MULTI ACADEMY

Dream | Believe | Achieve

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Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## NEU Industrial Action - Information for Parents and Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am sure you will be aware from recent media reports that the National Education Union (NEU) announced on 16th January that their membership has voted in favour of industrial action. The planned action is a result of a national dispute between the unions and government and not specifically St Teresa of Calcutta MAC or its academies.

For St Teresa of Calcutta MAC schools, the four dates of strikes are:

- **1<sup>st</sup> February:** All schools in England and Wales
- **1<sup>st</sup> March:** East Midlands, West Midlands, and the NEU's eastern region
- **15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Two-day strike of all schools in England and Wales

I want to reassure you that we will be doing everything we can to minimise disruption to your child's education. In the worst-case scenario, if we do need to consider moving to remote learning for some pupils, we will endeavour to ensure those children who most need to be in school can attend. This will include vulnerable children, children of critical workers, and children who are in examination year groups but will be subject to staff availability.

Your child's school might need to ask you in the coming days if you are a critical worker so we can make plans. Information about who critical workers are is attached.

If your child's school is affected by strike action and has the staff capacity to provide virtual lessons as they did during the COVID lockdowns, they will be in touch ahead of the strike days with details of how your child can log in to lessons so that we minimise any impact of not being in school.

We will keep you updated with any further important information that arises. If you have any questions, please do get in touch via the school office in the usual way.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Paul Ryan**  
**CSEL & CEO**  
**St Teresa of Calcutta MAC**



ARCHBISHOP ILLESLEY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



HOLY TRINITY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



HOLY SOULS  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ST CHAD'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



THE ROSARY  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **Critical workers**

We expect you to maximise the number of children, pupils and students who are in face-to-face provision during an emergency. If the impact of an emergency means that not everyone can attend face-to-face provision, we expect you to inform parents as part of your emergency communications of the impact, set out the groups you are prioritising for face-to-face provision, and invite parents to tell you if they meet one of the critical worker categories.

Parents whose work is critical to an emergency response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. If exceptional circumstances mean that attendance is temporarily limited, children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to their setting if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.

### **Health and social care**

This includes, but is not limited to, doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers; the support and specialist staff required to maintain the UK's health and social care sector; those working as part of the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical and personal protective equipment.

### **Education and childcare**

This includes:

- childcare
- support and teaching staff
- social workers
- specialist education professionals who must remain active during an emergency response to deliver this approach

### **Key public services**

This includes:

- those essential to the running of the justice system
- religious staff
- charities and workers delivering key frontline services
- those responsible for the management of the deceased
- journalists and broadcasters who are providing public service broadcasting

### **Local and national government**

This only includes those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of:

- an emergency response
- essential public services, such as the payment of benefits including in government
- agencies and Arm's length bodies (ALB).

### **Food and other necessary goods**

This includes those involved in food:

- production

- processing
- distribution
- sale and delivery
- as well as those essential to the provision of other key goods (for example
- hygienic and veterinary medicines)

### **Public safety and national security**

This includes:

- police and support staff
- Ministry of Defence civilians
- contractor and armed forces personnel (those critical to the delivery of key
- defence and national security outputs and essential to an emergency response)
- fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)
- National Crime Agency staff
- those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and other national
- security roles, including those overseas

### **Transport**

This includes those who will keep the air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport modes operating during an emergency response, including those working on transport systems through which supply chains pass.

### **Utilities, communication and financial services**

This includes:

- staff needed for essential financial services provision (including but not limited to workers in banks, building societies and financial market infrastructure)
- the oil, gas, electricity, and water sectors (including sewerage)
- information technology and data infrastructure sector and primary industry
- supplies to continue during an emergency response
- key staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals, telecommunications (including but not limited to network operations, field engineering, call centre staff, IT and data infrastructure, 999 and 111 critical services)
- postal services and delivery
- payments providers
- waste disposal sectors

Source: *Annex B, Emergency planning and response for education, childcare, and children's social care settings October 2022*, Department for Education