



# Langwith Bassett Junior Academy

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Dear Families,

As you will probably be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) has announced the results from their ballot and that the teachers who are members will be commencing strike action.

This action will take place on the following dates:

Wednesday 1st February (national strike)

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March (regional strike)

Wednesday 15th March (national strike)

Thursday 16th March (national strikes)

The NEU states that the reason for the ballot was: 'a result of failure by the Secretary of State in England and the employers in Wales to ensure enough money is available to pay a fully-funded increase in pay for teachers which at least matches inflation, and which begins to restore lost pay.'

A number of teachers at Langwith Bassett Junior Academy are members of the NEU. Whether our staff choose to exercise their right to strike is a personal matter. Staff do not have to inform the academy of their intention to strike until the actual day of the strike. This means that schools have to risk assess the potential disruption and make the necessary arrangements.

Other non-striking unions have issued guidance to their members of teaching staff about how they should respond, including not to cover for striking colleagues.

The staff at Langwith Bassett work extremely hard to ensure that your children receive the very best education, support and care and they do not wish to disrupt this. The action they decide to take is not one that will be taken lightly, and is one that they ultimately believe does have the best interests of the children at its heart.

Principals and Head Teachers should take all reasonable steps to ensure schools and academies remain open, taking into account the duty of care for pupils and health and safety requirements.

As an academy we aim to remain open if at all possible, however normal lessons, curriculum learning and educational provision is highly likely to be disrupted on that day for pupils across the academy. Should we find ourselves in a position where adult: pupil ratios are compromised, particularly in the case of our youngest pupils, we may have to make last minute alterations.

Thank you for your understanding.

*Sarah Bacon*

Mrs. Sarah Bacon

