

CHOWBENT PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: **Mr. J. Randle** B.A. (Hons)

Laburnum Street

Atherton

Manchester

M46 9FP

Telephone: (01942) 883410

Fax: (01942) 897773

E-mail:

enquiries@admin.chowbent.wigan.sch.uk

Web: www.chowbent.wigan.sch.uk

24/01/2023

Strike Action by the National Education Union.

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may already be aware that teachers in the NEU (National Education Union) have voted by a substantial margin for strike action and the first strike day will be Wednesday 1st February. A series of further strikes are planned for Tuesday 28th February, Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

The teachers and support staff at Chowbent Primary School are in a number of different unions and the only union whose members voted for strike action is the NEU.

This is a challenging time for everyone concerned: parents and carers, children and the colleagues who have taken a difficult decision, whichever way they voted. I respect that each individual is fully entitled to make their own decision and would like to make clear that by deciding to strike, teachers are not showing a lack of commitment to their work and duty, but making a stand about pay and conditions on a national level.

As a school we have to make an assessment before any strike day to determine what we believe to be the safest and least impactful actions that we can take to minimise disruption to the children's learning. For the first of the strike days, February 1st, I am expecting some staff to be taking action. This will affect our ability to be fully open as usual.

We have decided to prioritise our younger pupils, as they can less effectively access online learning at home than our older ones. In addition, we have decided to prioritise children who are due on that date to attend the Young Voices concert in Manchester. These children have spent many months preparing for the concert, parents have also purchased tickets and merchandise and we want their participation to go ahead. Therefore, on **Wednesday 1st February** we will be closed to all pupils from Year 5 and 6 **except** those who will be taking part in the Young Voices concert.

We will be open to all pupils in Years R through to Year 4. Children from Year 5 and 6 who are not in school on that day will be able to access our full range of online learning platforms to continue their studies.

We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause. We will update you on any future closure ahead of any further strike days if they go ahead.

J.Randle
Headteacher

