

# STEELSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL and NURSERY UNIT

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11<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**RE:** Information regarding full day of strike action by teachers and school leaders as well as ancillary and support staff from various unions on **Thursday 18th January 2024**.

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action announced by numerous unions in Northern Ireland. This includes all our Teaching Unions as well as Unison, GMB, NIPSA and Unite amongst others. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this will have at Steelstown PS and Nursery Unit.

## Impact

Staff members involved in industrial action will therefore not undertake any duties on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2024**. A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which considers the impact the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff, and visitors. **The Board of Governors has determined that the school will be closed for all pupils on Thursday 18th January** and will reopen on **Friday 19th January** as usual. Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. Taking strike action is not something that anyone would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and many will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

The responsibility to resolve this dispute lies solely with the Department of Education and our local government. To make your feelings known about that damage that is being done to our schools, the teaching profession and, of course, our children, you can write directly to the following people, in addition to your own local political representatives:

Sara Long, CEO: Education Authority, 40 Academy Street, Belfast, BT1

[sara.long@eani.org.uk](mailto:sara.long@eani.org.uk)

Eve Bremner, CEO: CCMS, Linen Hill House, 23 Linenhall Street, Lisburn, BT28 1FJ

[eve.bremner@ccmsschools.com](mailto:eve.bremner@ccmsschools.com)

Mark Browne, Permanent Secretary: DENI, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19

[mark.browne@education-ni.gov.uk](mailto:mark.browne@education-ni.gov.uk)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Catherine Doorish  
Principal

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