

20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Potential Strike Action**

As you may be aware, teaching unions have balloted their members on strike action, which has been voted for across the UK. The confirmed likely strike dates for our area will be:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Wednesday 1st March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

Principals are actively talking with colleagues in each of our academies to plan how the school day may need to be adjusted. Every effort will be made to keep our academies open provided it is safe to do so, but if our staffing levels are too low to operate the school, Principals may need to make the difficult decision to either partially or fully close. We will advise you of any closures as early as practically possible, however owing to the uncertainty of strike action, it may be necessary to close classes/schools at very short notice; this may involve notifying parents on the day.

As a trust it is our intention to open our academies for as many children as is safe to do so, but in the event of closures, our academies will prioritise key exam year groups and vulnerable children in line with the DfE guidance. I appreciate that this may cause you some inconvenience, but your support and consideration for our teams would be appreciated.

Thank you for your understanding in what are uncertain and challenging times.

Yours sincerely

Paul Shanks

Paul Shanks Chief Executive Officer

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