



Bapchild & Tonge CE (Aided) Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr C Kelly

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Thursday 29th June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware from media coverage that the teaching union NEU has declared further strike action, which will take place on:

- Wednesday 5th July 2023
- Friday 7th July 2023.

The strike is continuing because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over making available additional and sufficient funds to allow employers (the school) to pay a full funded increase in teachers' pay. It is unfortunate to date that there have been no meaningful offers or dialogue from the Government.

I wholeheartedly support any teacher that decides to take strike action and all my colleagues can count on my support in making this as easy as possible.

At the time of writing we will have **two classes** affected by strike action and will have to **close** these for both the Wednesday and Friday. These are **Reception** and **Year 1 classes**.

We will however be able to provide provision for the following children in a combined Reception and Year 1 class:

1. Vulnerable children which includes pupils who receive a free school meals (not Universal Infant Free School Meal), children with special educational needs, looked after children and children with a social worker.
2. Children of essential worker. Whilst this category was broadened for the pandemic, the revised and existing definition is:
 - An employee in any profession considered to be essential to the functioning of society, for example teachers, police officers, health workers
 - A person who works with a particular group of clients or patients and has a degree of responsibility for their welfare
 - A worker who fulfils a role regarded as vital for community, especially in the health, education, security, and infrastructure sectors.
 - Police and support staff
 - Ministry of Defence civilians
 - Contractors and armed forces personnel
 - Fire and rescue service employees (including support staff)

If you believe that you meet any of the categories, please complete the link below by 2pm on Monday 3rd July 2023. You **do not** need to apply if your child is not in Year R or Year 1.

<https://forms.gle/VxLdQD2HzPqKR8Ro7>

If we do not feel you meet the criteria we will contact you to discuss further.

The transition afternoon that was planned for Wednesday 5th July 2023 will now be postponed until Wednesday 12th July 2023.

As always, I appreciate the teachers who have indicated that they will be taking industrial action. I also appreciate that this will be disruptive to our children and families and thank you in advance for your understanding.

Yours Sincerely,

C Kelly

Mr C Kelly
Headteacher