

25 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware from the media, the National Education Union will be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on the following days:

- Wednesday 01 February
- Thursday 02 March
- Wednesday 15 March
- Thursday 16 March

This action is not against Heston Community School but a part of national industrial action organised by this union against the Secretary of State for Education. The industrial action relates to providing schools with additional and sufficient funds to award a fully funded pay increase for staff.

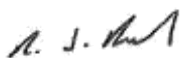
There is no requirement on the NEU to inform the School which members of staff will take action; it may be that they will not know themselves, as there is no obligation on members of unions to obey a strike call.

Neither the Governors nor the Headteacher is legally allowed to close the school 'in sympathy' with the strike and we will not do so. However, our main concern is the safety of our students. The School will only close, if in the opinion of the Headteacher, it is not safe to remain open.

The vast majority of Heston Community School's teaching staff are NEU members and therefore a significant level of disruption is expected. However, the School may not know until very late how many staff will be available to work. Therefore, the School will only make the final decision whether we will need to close on Monday 30 January 2023. In the interim, please can parent/carers plan and organise their provisional arrangements for their children in the event of a school closure. In the event of a School closure, a small number of vulnerable students, who meet very specific criteria, will be invited to attend. We will inform parents/carers of the School's decision by text message, email and the School's website [www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk](http://www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk).

We must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely



**Mr R Berdesha**  
**Headteacher**

**Headteacher**  
Ranjit Berdesha BSc (Hons)

Heston Road  
Heston  
Hounslow TW5 0QR

**T** 020 8572 1931  
**E** [info@hestoncs.org](mailto:info@hestoncs.org)  
**W** [www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk](http://www.hestoncommunityschool.co.uk)