

Date: 18th November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Industrial Action - Teaching Unions

You may be aware from coverage in the media, that the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS) and the Association of Head Teacher and Deputies in Scotland (AHDS) unions have indicated their intention to take strike action on **Thursday 24 November 2022**. This action is part of a national dispute regarding pay.

The safe supervision of children and young people is of utmost importance and, given that we anticipate significantly reduced numbers of both management and teaching staffing in schools and early learning and childcare settings, a decision has been made to close **all** educational establishments to pupils. Apologies for the inconvenience this will cause, however it is hoped that a clear decision will enable you to make plans ahead for the disruption expected.

While the council has been formally notified by the EIS and AHDS of their intention to strike, if there are any developments at a national level, and if strike action is averted in schools this will be notified through the council website www.highland.gov.uk and through our social media, as well as your child's usual school communication channels.

In summary, on Thursday 24 November:

All Primary Schools including local authority ELC settings will be closed to pupils,
All Secondary Schools, Special Schools and off-site provision will be closed to pupils,
A BACS payment will be made for those children and young people entitled to a free school meal based on low income (not universal entitlement),
Schools crossing patrols will not be in operation on this day,
School transport will not operate on this day.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Grant
Executive Chief Officer Education and Learning