

Sent via Email

Date: 19th December 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 Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association (SSTA) have indicated their intention to take strike action on Wednesday 11th January 2023 across all Highland Council Secondary Schools. This action is part of a national dispute regarding pay.

The safe supervision of children and young people is of the utmost importance and given that we anticipate significantly reduced numbers of both management and teaching staff in schools, a decision has been made to close all secondary schools to pupils on this day. I apologise for the inconvenience this will cause, however it is hoped that communicating this decision early it will allow parents/carers to plan ahead.

While the Council has been formally notified by the EIS and the SSTA of their intention to strike, if there are any developments at a national level that averts strike action taking place, you will be notified of this care through the Council website www.highland.gov.uk; our social media platforms; as well as your child's usual school communication channels.

In summary, on Wednesday 11 January 2023:

- 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).
- School Crossing Patrols will not operate on this day.
- School Transport will not operate on this day.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Grant
Executive Chief Officer Education and Learning