



# Slade Primary School

The Slade, Tonbridge, TN9 1HR

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As I shared in last week's newsletter, The National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its ballot of teacher members in England has met the thresholds required to commence industrial action. The first of the proposed dates for possible national and regional action is Wednesday 1 February.

I am therefore writing to you today with further updates on the planned action and the impact that it will have for classes here in school.

As I shared previously, a large proportion of our staff team are members of the NEU and will be taking action on this date. Union members are not required to inform me whether they will be taking part in the strike and teachers who are not currently NEU members are still entitled to join that union until midnight on 31st January thus enabling them to legally take part in the strike alongside their colleagues. In addition, some NEU members here in school have yet to decide what action they will be taking.

Therefore, based on the information currently available to me and after completing a risk assessment with the Senior Leadership Team, I can confirm that presently only the following classes will definitely be **open** for children on Wednesday 1 February:

- Elmer
- Gruffalo
- Pegasus
- Dragon
- Wyvern

In addition, our Specialist Resource Provision (Titans) will also be **open** for all HI children who access this support to attend. A separate email will be sent to parents of these children to confirm their attendance nearer the time.

Breakfast Club and After School Club will be open to those children whose classes are open. The school kitchen will also be able to provide school lunches where required.

All other classes, not listed above, will more than likely be **closed** to pupils for the day. However, this list may be subject to change even as late as the morning of 1 February. I continue to work closely with our staff union representative to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

I am very sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and for the disruption to their learning too. I also understand that this situation may be frustrating but would ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect and kindness during this time. All of the staff team here at Slade continue to have my full support whatever decision they choose to make with regards to taking industrial action. Further information outlining the reasons why our staff are taking such action can be found at the following link: <https://neu.org.uk/media/24511/view>

Details regarding provision of learning for those children not attending school as a result of industrial action will be shared with parents of those classes next week.

As always, I will continue to keep you all updated with any changes to the above information as and when I have new details to share.

Kind regards,

Karen Slade, Headteacher

