



10/11/2023

Day of strike action by non-teaching staff on 16th November 2023

A thuismitheoir, a chara,

I am writing to advise you that we have been notified by the Education Authority (EA) that the members of the four non-teaching trade unions (UNISON, UNITE the UNION, NIPSA and GMB) are being called to take part in strike action next Thursday 16th November in relation to a trade dispute linked to the EA Pay and Grading Review.

How will strike action affect Gaelscoil na mBeann?

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. Staff members involved in this industrial action will therefore not undertake any duties on the 16th November. This may mean a disruption in service in relation to provision provided by transport, school dinners, classroom assistants, building supervisors and admin staff.

Following a meeting involving the principals of all the local primary schools discussing the implications of the strike we have all concluded that our non-teaching staff are vital in the running of our schools, and we cannot safely open without them.

A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which considers the impact the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike. The Board of Governors has determined that the school will be closed for all pupils on Thursday 16th November and will reopen as normal on Friday the 17th November.

Teachers have subsequently been advised by their unions that they should not be asked to provide learning packs or remote learning in the event that strike action closes a school.

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. I cannot overstate the importance of the many roles our fabulous non-teaching staff play within school and how much we value everything they bring to our school community.

Gaelscoil na mBeann / Naíscoil na mBeann
Seoladh: 127A Bóthar Chaisleán Nua, Cill Chaoil, Co. an Dúin, BT34 4NL
Guthán: 028 41258418



As this is an evolving situation, if there are any changes between now and next Thursday, we will reassess the matter and keep you informed of any changes.

Is mise le meas,

Mícheál Ó Brádaigh
Príomhoide/ Principal