

Stranraer Academy

Ref: JF/lj

22nd September 2023

McMasters Road
STRANRAER
Wigtownshire
DG9 8BY



Head Teacher (Acting):
Mr Jamie Farquhar

Any enquiries please contact

Mr J Farquhar

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Dear parents and carers

As you will be aware there is planned strike action by members of UNISON over local government pay.

Staff involved in this industrial action include learning assistants, administration staff, technicians and catering staff. These staff groups provide vital support services to schools and are essential to ensure the normal operations of schools and early learning and childcare facilities.

The planned strikes will take place on:

- **Tuesday 26 September 2023**
- **Wednesday 27 September 2023**
- **Thursday 28 September 2023**

We have completed health and safety assessments and considered operational factors across the provision and have made the difficult decision to close Stranraer Academy for S1-S4 pupils for these three days as we cannot operate safely during the strike action.

School will be closed to pupils in S1, S2, S3 and S4.

Formal work will not be set but I would encourage pupils to check their subject MS Teams pages for ongoing revision and consolidation work at parents' discretion. This is especially important for pupils undertaking National 5 qualifications who I hope will use this time to progress coursework and exam preparation.

School will be open to S5 and S6 pupils.

All Senior Phase classes will run as normal, and I expect pupils to attend classes where possible. This is especially important for pupils undertaking National 5, Higher and Advance Higher qualifications. I appreciate the disruption of the industrial action may mean S5/6 pupils are required at home. Please let the school know as usual. The school canteen will be available to S5/6 pupils.

Phonelines to the school will not be monitored during the industrial action. Please contact your child directly if required. We trust parents' and pupils' judgement in this regard.

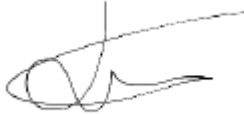
While most S5/6 pupils are over 16 years-of-age, a significant minority are not. Pupils will be safe and benefit from their attendance but the decision to attend school rests with parents.

Please contact me, or your child's Pupil Support Teacher directly if you have any questions or concerns.

I am sorry for the inconvenience that this will cause to families and for the disruption to learning.

I hope a resolution can be reached over the weekend; in which case I will inform parents immediately.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Farquhar', written in a cursive style.

Jamie Farquhar
Acting Headteacher