

March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Notification of partial closure on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March

As you are aware the **NEU Trade Union** are planning to take strike action on the above dates for all eligible members in England and Wales.

As Head of School, I have assessed the impact on the school of the strike action that is planned to take place. After careful consideration, I have decided that the school will be **PARTIALLY CLOSED**.

YR5 (Paddleboats and Liners) WILL BE OPEN ON BOTH DAYS AS NORMAL.

ALL OTHER YEAR GROUPS WILL BE CLOSED FOR BOTH DAYS.

This decision has not been taken lightly and I regret needing to take this action, but there will not be sufficient staff in school to ensure the safety and the wellbeing of all the children. Whilst I regret needing to take this action, it is done to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils in every school, not just Riverside, for the future which is why we are strongly supporting the aims of this industrial action.

However, in these difficult times I appreciate that many parents rely on the school to provide lunch for children and therefore we have organised a takeaway lunch for both days for parents and pupils to collect from the school gate between 12.00-1.00 on strike days. All parents need to do is email bookings@riverside.southwark.sch.uk by 11am on the day (or before if you wish) to say you require a lunch and how many you need. There will be at least 2 options – you do not need to make your choice until you come to collect.

I apologise sincerely for the difficulties these arrangements will cause to parents and carers, but unfortunately these circumstances are beyond our control. Should we get notification that the strike days are cancelled, school will be open as usual.

The school will open as normal on **Friday 17th March**. If you have any queries or concerns, please let me know.



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