



Friday 23rd June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

You may be aware from media coverage that the National Education Union have declared further strike action next month, which will take place on the dates below:

- **Wednesday 5th July 2023**
- **Friday 7th July 2023**

I am sorry to inform you that Gateacre School will be closed to all students on these dates. I am asking you not to send your child into school on these days.

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the trade unions and the government over teachers unfunded pay award and the impact it has on recruitment and retention of staff, and not because of any issues at our school.

Due to the large number of NEU colleagues taking industrial action, Gateacre School will not be able to open safely to students in any year group. I have not taken this decision lightly and risk assessed a variety of other options. We remain committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, and believe that we would be unable to provide this with the staff we have available on those days.

I am sorry that you will have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice, and that they will experience disruption to their education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.

We are working closely with our staff trade union representatives to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you as soon as possible if arrangements change further.

If you have any questions, please contact admin@gateacre.org or on the telephone number at the bottom of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

Gareth Jones
Headteacher