



# St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Biddick Lane, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 8AF  
Tel: (0191) 716 1700 Email: [school@str.bwcet.com](mailto:school@str.bwcet.com)



**Executive Head Teacher:** Mr D Juric  
**Head of School:** Mrs J Bowen  
**Chair of Governors:** Miss A Nichols

20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

## Notification of Industrial Action

As you may be aware from the recent media coverage, National Education Union (NEU) have balloted their members with regards to taking industrial action over concerns relating to pay.

The planned strike dates that may affect our schools are as follows:

1 February 2023  
28 February 2023  
15 & 16 March 2023

The action is not against our school nor the Trust itself but is part of national industrial action organised by NEU.

There is no requirement for NEU to inform us which members of staff will take action. Likewise, there is no obligation on members of the union to obey a strike call. However, in the interests of our children's safety and welfare, I will be requesting that staff colleagues advise me whether they intend to attend work on the planned strike days. If we have a high number of staff taking action, it could possibly lead to either partial or full closure of the school.

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is not allowed to close any of its schools in sympathy with the strike. However, our main concern is the welfare and safety of our students. The decision to close is never taken lightly but in the instance where a significant number of staff elect to take lawful industrial action, we may have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of all our students.

Therefore, this letter is being sent to you to give you an early warning that the Trust, Governors, and I will need to consider in due course the action we will have to take, once we know how many staff are intending to take part in the strike.

We will continue to keep you informed via the school's website and by letter.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and continued support.

Yours sincerely

**Mr D Juric**  
**Executive Head Teacher**

