



Ballyclare Secondary School

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Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH

21st April 2023

Dear Ballyclare Secondary School Families

The teachers' industrial action that is being taken by members of the five teaching trade unions is proceeding as planned on Wednesday 26th April 2023. Clearly, this difficult situation will cause disruption. The decision has been made that our school will be closed for all pupils on this date. We would ask for understanding in this matter as choosing to strike is not an easy decision for any individual. We encourage our pupils to work at home during this time, especially pupils in Years 11-14 as they prepare for external examinations. Pupils should also check their Google classrooms for work.

Staff are under no obligation to indicate whether they will or will not take strike action and so at this stage it is not clear who or how many of our staff will not be in work on that day. Staff who are in work are under no obligation to provide cover for colleagues who are on strike.

In coming to this decision, we have also considered the health and safety implications of having an unknown number of teaching staff on strike and have determined that closing the school to pupils on Wednesday 26th April 2023 is the safest option. School will reopen on Thursday 27th April 2023.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Wendy Shingleton
Acting Principal