



## *Ballyclare Secondary School*

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**Principal: Mrs K O Bell BA Adv Cert Ed PQH**

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Ballyclare Secondary School families

There will be an all-day school closure for pupils on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

As you are aware, there is a planned teachers' strike until 12pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023. 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.

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 the morning of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023. 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 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 is the safest option. A significant number of pupils depend on public transport to come to school, therefore to open school at 12pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 would not be an easy option for many.

School will reopen on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

To minimise further disruption to lessons, we have made the decision to move the Year 8 Parent Consultations to the afternoon of Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023, from 1pm to 3pm, conducted via SchoolCloud. We apologise for the short notice of these consultations, but hope you understand that this is to reduce the number of half days to facilitate such meetings, during a time of industrial action.

From 12pm today, please visit <https://ballyclaresecondary.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book your sessions.

Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Yours faithfully

Wendy Shingleton  
Acting Principal

