19/04/2023

A thuismitheoir, a chara,

**Full day of strike action by teachers and school leaders on 26 April**

I am writing to you about forthcoming strike action by the five teaching unions in Northern Ireland. You may have seen coverage of this in the news, and I wanted to inform you about the impact this is likely to have at our school.

**How will strike action affect Gaelscoil na mBeann?**

When a strike takes place, those taking strike action stop work and withdraw their labour. Staff members involved in this industrial action will therefore not undertake any duties on 26 April. A detailed risk assessment has been conducted which considers the impact the action will have on the health and safety of pupils, staff and visitors, and whether the school can run a full or amended curriculum, to determine whether it is possible to operate the school safely during the strike. The Board of Governors has determined that the school will be closed for all pupils on Wednesday 26 April 2023 and will reopen as normal on Thursday 27 April. **There will be no disruption to Naíscoil na mBeann and it will open as normal on Tuesday, 26 April, 2023.**

Clearly this is a difficult situation, which will cause some disruption. I would ask you, however, to be understanding. This is a very unusual circumstance and is the direct result of the failure to take into account the very real concerns expressed by teachers and school leaders. Taking strike action is not something that anyone would undertake lightly. Those on strike will have thought long and hard about their decision and will also lose pay for the period that they are on strike.

**Parental Support**

It is vitally important that our parent communities are supportive of this action, which relates, of course, to the future sustainability of school provision in Northern Ireland.

[www.naht.org.uk/writetoyourMLA](https://r1.ddlnk.net/3OT7-1JTGL-735X7A-12AJ3G-1/c.aspx)

This link will take you to a microsite that NAHT have prepared, through which you can easily submit concerns about this dispute to your respective MLAs using a prepopulated letter. You simply need to enter your postcode. We would encourage you all to do this as it gives a voice to you, our parent community to place pressure onto our politicians who have the power to bring about a resolution to this dispute.

Míle buíochas leat as ucht do chuid tacaíochta. Thank you for your continued support.

Is mise le meas,



Mícheál Ó Brádaigh

**Príomhoide/ Principal**