



TO ALL PARENTS/CARERS  
FIFE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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**EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S  
SERVICES**

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Carrie Lindsay

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2 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

**All Fife Secondary Schools will close to pupils on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December due to teacher industrial action**

As I indicated in my previous letter, all Teaching Trade Unions have rejected the latest pay offer and Fife Council has now received statutory mandates from a further two teaching unions, the SSTA (Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association) and NASUWT (National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers), planning to take industrial action on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. This industrial action will create significant disruption to our education settings, but most particularly our Secondary Schools, where membership of these two teaching unions is high.

Once again, we won't know in advance how many of our teachers will join the planned strike action on Thursday. However, we do know that most union members voted in favour of action, so we expect a high level of participation.

As you will appreciate, because of the numbers of teachers who may take part in this industrial action, our assessment of the risk has determined that we cannot provide cover across classes and subjects without sufficient teachers, therefore we are unable to open our Secondary Schools to children and young people. So, even though some staff may come to work, we're unlikely to be able to run any Secondary School safely.

Therefore, to help families plan, we've made the difficult decision to close all Fife Secondary Schools and Secondary Pupil Support Centres on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

Again, I recognise that this may be challenging or inconvenient for many families. I fully appreciate how difficult it is for parents, carers and pupils when we must do this, and I can only continue to ask for your patience and understanding.

All pupils have access to a wide range of national online learning resources (including GLOW, Teams, Scholar, SQA Past papers, BBC Bitesize, West OS and e-Sgoil). We ask that they make use of these resources across their subject areas.

We're considering what arrangements will be in place relating to provision of school meals and details will be issued soon through individual establishments.

All settings will reopen as normal on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> December.

We'll update parents immediately if the dispute is resolved, plans change or further action is notified.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Carrie Lindsay'.

Carrie Lindsay  
Executive Director (Education & Children's Services)