



Mayfield Preparatory School
Believe it! Achieve it

24 January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As you may have heard on the news, the NEU has announced a number of strikes by teachers in schools in the next few months. I am writing firstly to give you more detailed background information, and secondly to reassure you about what is going to happen at Mayfield.

The dispute is between teachers and the Government over pay. Members of the NAHT, NASUWT and support staff were balloted but did not achieve the turnout required for strike action. The NEU did achieve the turnout required and members voted for strike action. The NEU have announced 7 days of strike, of which 4 will affect individual schools.

It is the School's understanding from independent schools' associations that any strike action undertaken by teachers in an independent school is unlawful because the dispute over pay is between the teachers and the Government. The dispute is not between the teachers at Mayfield and their employers, Mayfield Preparatory School. Although the NEU has announced dates of strike action, these apply to the maintained sector and not to independent schools.

The NEU must give 2 weeks' notice to the School if any members intend to strike. Mayfield has not received any notice of strike action and for the reasons outlined above, the School does not expect any teachers to strike. Therefore, the School will be open on strike days and we expect the School to go about the normal days' teaching and learning as usual.

I hope this letter reassures you all and allows you to plan your days as normal in the coming months, even on strike days in maintained schools.

Best wishes

Mr M. Draper
Headmaster