

## Upcoming strike action by teachers and principals

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The Board has been advised that there will be a full day strike by our teaching staff on **Wednesday 29 May 2019**. The NZEI, which is the union representing the teachers and principals, and the Ministry of Education have been in negotiations since May 2018, the NZEI has rejected the Ministry's latest offer as they do not believe that it addresses their concerns in relation to the current crisis in staffing, resourcing, recruiting and retaining of teachers and principals. Negotiations are continuing between the NZEI and the Ministry of Education, however unless the Government comes up with an acceptable offer the strike will be going ahead.

This memo is to provide you with advance warning of this action. The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff, and unfortunately decided that we can't provide normal teaching services during the strike. Therefore on the strike day we will be closed for both supervision and instruction. This is not a decision we make lightly, however we cannot compromise on the safety of our students. It is important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child / children on the day of the strike.

I know that this is inconvenient for parents and students alike, but please be assured that student safety is our main concern.

Thank you for your understanding. Please contact Greg Stewart if you have any queries relating to this decision.

Yours Sincerely,

Greg Stewart

Chair, Greenhithe School Board of Trustees

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