



The John Roan NUT Group
johnroannut@gmail.com

19 April 2016

Dear Parents,

John Roan NUT members will be out on strike on Thursday 21 April this week against redundancies, cuts in courses and workload at our school. As you may be aware, current proposals would mean cuts in staffing of up to 20%.

We have not come to this decision lightly. After four meetings over seven weeks there has been no significant movement by the Ms Powrie to address our real concerns about the impact of the restructuring plan; the basis by which a budget deficit is argued; and the lack of communication to parents about what is actually being proposed for the school. In meetings, Ms Powrie, has taken notes about our concerns but not offered any indication that they will be met. This in our view is not consultation. After just under two hours of negotiation with the unions today, there was no substantial agreement on the core issues and regretfully we have had to initiate strike action.

We remain committed to avoiding further strike action. We ask Ms Powrie to start seriously engaging with the negotiating process and to address our concerns about the budget, cuts to staff and courses and the negative impact this will have on our students. We hope the school will now withdraw the redundancies as there is no financial justification for them and reinstate courses that we believe benefit our students enormously.

We remain committed to reaching out to parents and hearing views on the restructuring proposals. We have done our best to share the information we have been given about the radical and far reaching proposals being made, through public meetings and leafleting and publishing information on our website.

We request that Nadine and Patrick (the chair of Governors) organise a whole school meeting where both Governors and the unions can address their views to staff and parents so that we have a chance to express our views on the financial situation of the school, the impact of cutting staff by 20% and cutting courses at GCSE and A Level, along with the reduction in pastoral time (tutor time).

If you would like to request such a meeting, or you wish to direct your views to the Headteacher you can email npowrie@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk and goverors@thejohnroan.greenwich.sch.uk If parents have any questions about our action, please email the NUT at johnroannut@gmail.com.

Our picket will be from 7.30am – 9.30am and we welcome parents to join us or come talk to us about the situation in our school. After a day of leafleting the community, Greenwich NUT will be hosting a meet-up with teachers and support staff from The John Roan at the Royal Standard Pub Blackheath from 4.30pm. We welcome parents to join us.

The John Roan is a great school with dedicated staff and an ethos of delivering comprehensive education to our diverse community. We are committed to defending this provision and the traditions of The Roan.

Kirstie Paton and Paulina Blackstock on behalf of **The John Roan NUT**