



29/11/2023

Dear Parent / Guardian

**Notice of Industrial Action by Translink on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and arrangements in place for Loreto Grammar School**

I wish to inform you of arrangements in place for Loreto Grammar School on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 in light of the planned Strike Action by Translink. Details and key points of note for parents issued by the Education Authority are included below.

- **Loreto Grammar School will be open for all students on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Parents have been advised by the Education Authority to make alternative transport arrangements, if required.**
- **Students who are unable to attend school on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, due to the unavailability of school transport, can provide a note to this effect, and will then not be marked absent.**
- **Students who are not in school on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023, due to the unavailability of school transport, are expected to access live-class or work provided by class teacher via class Microsoft Team. All students are expected to follow normal Friday timetable.**
- **Students who wish to have lunch in the school canteen on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 will be asked to confirm this intention via their Form Teacher on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 during Registration.**
- **Impact on Planned Events:**
  - The **Christmas Craft Fair** organised by the Student Council will be rescheduled to take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
  - The **Year 10 scheduled CATs Tests** will now take place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.
  - Information re: additional group or class events to be rescheduled will be issued by group leader / class teacher.

I appreciate your ongoing support and cooperation. See communication from the Education Authority below for your reference.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Cullinan  
Principal

## Key points from communication received from the Education Authority

### 1. Translink Disruption

The EA has been informed by Translink that they are expecting there will be no train or bus services – Ulsterbus, Goldliner, Metro or Glider, operating on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, due to Industrial action.

Over 57,000 children and young people in receipt of bus passes will be impacted, as well as fare paying pupils. This will affect pupils who attend both primary and post-primary schools and Further Education Colleges.

Parents are therefore strongly advised to make alternative arrangements for their child if they connect with a Translink bus service for any portion of their journey to and/or from school. This includes children who connect to a Translink service via an EA yellow bus, private hire bus or ferry service. EA cannot guarantee pupils will be able to complete their journey and strongly advise they confirm alternative arrangements.

Translink will communicate relevant passenger information through the media, via the industrial action webpage on their website: <https://www.translink.co.uk/industrialaction> through social media, in stations, and on buses and trains. The Translink contact centre will also remain open, should you have any queries please call **T: 028 9066 6630**.

### 2. Disruption to EA Services

In addition, as a result of the strike action **by EA non-teaching trade union - UNITE the Union members**, we are expecting some disruption to school transport (yellow buses)

**EA Transport (yellow buses) – this will impact ALL SCHOOLS**

Details of EA bus services that will not operate will be published on the [Transport Updates Webpage](#) on the EA website, however, some services may be disrupted at such short notice that advance notification is not possible.

We would again advise parents/carers to consider potential alternative arrangements in advance and check the website regularly – updates will be posted at 5.00 pm each evening: [Transport Updates Webpage](#) / [www.eani.org.uk/industrialactionupdates](http://www.eani.org.uk/industrialactionupdates)