



4<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

**To:    Second Level Branch Officers  
         Second Level Workplace Representatives  
         Executive Committee (for information)**

**Advice re: Industrial Action by ASTI**

Dear Colleagues,

As a consequence of withdrawal from Supervision and Substitution (S&S) by members of the ASTI, many schools, following decisions by Boards of Management/Employers, will be closed to students on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and on subsequent days.

**Dual Union School - Closed**

If your school is a dual union school and is closed on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and subsequent days as a result of ASTI's withdrawal from S&S, you will, as a member of the TUI, need to have completed and returned the form appended to Circular Letter 71/2016 in order to ensure that you are paid for the day(s) in question.

**Dual Union School - Open**

If your school is a dual union school but is open to students on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November and subsequent days, you may not on those days undertake any work, including S&S duties, normally done by a colleague who is a member of the ASTI. This is set out clearly in the FAQs for S&S that were circulated by TUI to all schools on 27<sup>th</sup> October and that are available on the TUI website. We would ask members to familiarise themselves with the FAQs.

In addition, in the event of the school being open to students, TUI - in the letter sent to representatives on 21<sup>st</sup> October - made it clear that the timetable that normally applies must be worked and that an alternative timetable is not acceptable.

Neither is it acceptable for schools to open for meetings and/or any other activities during school hours that had not already been scheduled for the day(s) in question.

**Dual Union School – Partial Opening**

It has been brought to our attention that a small number of schools may seek to have partial opening i.e. to bring in only some of the students: for example, exam year students. The TUI is opposed to this practice, considering it to present an increased risk in terms of health and safety. It is also more likely to involve compromised timetables which are unacceptable to the TUI and which put members in the position, potentially, of being asked to undertake work normally done by their ASTI colleagues. The TUI has clearly advised the management bodies and the Department of Education and Skills of our position in this regard.

**Strike Day(s)**

Please note that the ASTI has a day of strike action planned for Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November, this action is separate from the withdrawal from S&S on the 7<sup>th</sup> November and relates to a different issue. In relation to the day of strike action on the 8<sup>th</sup>, members of the TUI are to proceed in accordance with the advice issued by the Union in the letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> October and the FAQs for Strike Action issued on 24<sup>th</sup> October. The FAQs are also available on the TUI website.

Should any issues arise that require further clarification please contact your Branch, your Area Representative and/or the relevant TUI Official.

Yours sincerely



Joanne Irwin  
President



John MacGabhann  
General Secretary