

June 2013

Defend a Fair Pay Policy – Stop This Man



Michael Gove is trying to push through unacceptable changes to the way that teachers are paid. These include the ending of annual pay progression and the abolition of pay portability (whereby you take your salary point to your new job).

It is one of the reasons why the NUT and NASUWT together are embarking on a series of regional strikes beginning in the north west on 27th June.

The DfE is putting pressure on schools to formulate pay policies that reflect these damaging changes.

What we can do to stop this

In addition to the planned strikes, we can act in our schools. The NUT and NASUWT have sent a model pay policy and pay checklist to all school governing bodies.

- Ask your Head teacher if s/he is aware of our model policy and of the checklist
- Ask your Head teacher how they currently intend to advise the governing body
- Find out how and when the governing body will be discussing the issue and what the intended timetable is. Make sure staff governors are aware of the issues and are able to attend the meetings
- Ask for assurances that there will be consultation with union representatives throughout the process
- When the school policy has been drafted, if you think the wording is unacceptable, ask for it to be changed. If this does not happen, contact the Bradford NUT office.
- Wear stickers on 27th June to support our colleagues in the north west (stickers will be sent soon), and send photos of any events you organise in solidarity to photos@nut.org.uk

The pay policy and checklist apply equally in Academies

Although the revised provisions are due to take effect from 1st September 2013, **changes to annual progression on the pay spine cannot happen until September 2014.**

Michael Gove has alleged that schools will be acting illegally if they adopt the union's pay policy. **This is not the case.** The NUT's senior solicitor has written to Head teachers and Chairs of Governors to say this.

The NUT's Action Strategy

- ✓ Continuation of the action short of strike action in every school
- ✓ Targeted strike action in schools where governing bodies do not adopt acceptable pay policies protecting teachers against Michael Gove's proposals
- ✓ Rolling regional strike action, starting on 27th June in the North West Region and continuing in other regions in the first half of the autumn term
- ✓ National strike action in the second half of the autumn term

NUT's plan for regional strike twinning – see overleaf

Come to the Bradford District General Meeting on Tuesday 18th June

to discuss

- Our joint campaign with the NASUWT
- Securing a fair pay policy in your school
- The problems faced by our supply teacher members

And why not stay for a CURRY afterwards? It's FREE.

The International Restaurant, Morley Street

Meeting starts at 5 with tea and coffee from 4.30

Ends promptly at 6.30 for the curry.

School Twinning for Regional Strikes

The NUT has twinned Bradford and Preston schools so they can offer each other support in the rolling regional strikes which are about to begin. Preston is in the North West Region, so they are out on 27th June. It will be Bradford's turn in the autumn.

We have sent your School Rep the details of which Preston School your own school has been twinned with. The idea is that members from your school send messages of support, cards, emails, letters, cup cakes, whatever you like, to the members in your Preston twin school.

Below is an example of wording but your own is bound to be better:-

Dear NUT members at,

Your NUT colleagues at wish you every success in your strike day on 27th June. Teachers have to stand up against Michael Gove and his bullying colleagues in Government, and we are proud that you are playing your part in doing that. For children to get a good education they need decently paid, well-motivated teachers young enough to do the job, and a system that doesn't burden them with bureaucratic workload and intimidating inspections. When it's our turn, we will be ready to act, but for now we are right there behind you.

Best wishes,

Accidents with trampolines Are your pupils trained? Does your school have a safety policy?



Accidents caused by trampolines are common in Britain, and during recent years a significant number of those accidents have happened in schools. You could be forgiven for assuming that the

dangerous bit is using the trampoline, but actually a number of injuries have been caused when the trampoline is being set-up.

It is common practice in secondary schools for supervised pupils to put up the trampoline – something that would never happen in a sports centre. The danger arises because the equipment is heavy and powerfully sprung. This has caused injuries from being struck as sections spring into place, and trapping injuries when hands have been touching hinges.

If you are a teacher who is responsible for supervising pupils setting up trampolines:

- You should have had training in this
- All your pupils should have had training
- Check the safety policy which your school should have, and make sure you are following it. If, for example, the policy states that a minimum number of pupils or adults is required, don't be tempted to compromise on this. If you have any doubts about the safety policy, please contact the union office.
- Talk to your school management about using trained technicians rather than pupils to set them up.

Help Save the National Media Museum

Closure of the National Media Museum would be a disaster for Bradford's economy and for the thousands of school children every year who use it as an educational resource. The group to which the National Media Museum belongs also includes the Science Museum in London, the Science and Technology Museum in Manchester and the National Railway Museum in York. The proposal is to close one of the three northern museums in order to save the whole group. There is no threat to the London Science Museum!

Pictureville Cinema, considered by many in the film industry to be one of the best cinemas in the country, is part of the museum and would share the same fate.

If you haven't already done so, please sign one of the petitions that have been organised. You can find one at 38 degrees – google 38 degrees media museum and one on the Telegraph and Argus website.

Fancy a blog?

Join 120 others and go to <http://bradfordteacher.wordpress.com/> for news and views about education and all things teachery. You can receive notifications by email of new posts

**Join the NUT, the largest teachers' union. Just ring the Joining Hotline on
0845300 1669 or 020 7380 6369**

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