

ONGOING ACTION

The planned meetings in December with Michael Gove did not proceed in a positive manner. **Mr Gove** only wanted to discuss implementation of his policies, and **provocatively** invited the EDAPT Insurance Company (which presents itself as an alternative to Trade Unions) to the talks.

Both NUT and NASUWT asked that EDAPT leave the proceedings. When this did not occur, **both organisations walked out followed by the other teaching unions**. Mr Gove can have no doubt about the opposition of the teaching profession to his damaging proposals.

It seems that Mr Gove, who asserts that he is always ready to meet the teaching unions, is only prepared to do so **on his terms** and because of this has spurned a real opportunity to make progress in this dispute.

The Secretary of State has a **legal requirement** to meet with official Trade Unions with which he is in a formal dispute and the TUC has since written to Mr Gove asking him to engage in **meaningful negotiations**.

Meanwhile NUT National Executive meets to decide how best to continue the campaign and along with NASUWT Executive to decide when is the **most effective** time for national strike **action**.

Look and listen for announcements and stay close to your Union.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

This Committee of the City Council is the closest in existence to what used to be the Council's Education Committee. There are teacher members of this Committee and elections for these positions took place last term. MTA is pleased to announce that the NUT candidates will continue their excellent service to education in the City.

Marian Gadian (primary including special) was re-elected and **Liam Duffy** (Secondary) was re-elected unopposed. Their work is a credit to NUT's **commitment to education**; congratulations to them and thanks to all those teachers NUT and non NUT who have supported them.

ELECTION RESULT

Following the recent ballot to decide who would be the MTA nominees for the election of Executive Member of the NUT 2014. The following results were announced:-

Q1 - How many nominations do you wish the Association to make?

0—1, 1—64, 2—194

Q2 - Of the following, whom would you like the Association to nominate?

James Barry - 54, Nick Wigmore - 10

James Barry & Nick Wigmore - 194

James Barry and **Nick Wigmore** will be the Associations nominees. Thanks to all members who participated in the democratic process, please continue to give your support to the Association's nominees in the national election.

BEHAVIOUR POLICIES

At the December 2013 meeting of Manchester Teachers' Association NUT General Committee, the following motion was debated and carried without opposition:-

"Health and Safety data shows 'violence and physical assault against employees' to be the second most reported category.

Such incidents can be destructive of discipline and order in a school and damaging to the health, well being and professional function of the individual teacher.

Therefore Manchester Teachers' Association NUT reiterates the need for all schools, be they in Local Authority or other control, to have a Behaviour Policy aimed at maximising positive learning opportunities and facilitating the successful working of the professional teacher.

Manchester Teachers' Association NUT believes such a policy should involve all staff, pupils and parents, be regularly reviewed, and should include provision for quality CPD for the schools' professional teachers and support them in times of particular stress.

Manchester Teachers' Association NUT urges the Local Authority to include this in its guidance to all

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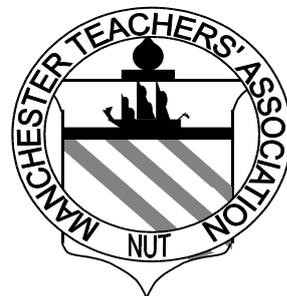
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schools in Manchester with which it has links and NUT nationally to continue its work in publicising the ongoing need for such policies”.

Such policies re-enforce the position of the professional teacher and are supportive of schools and the young people who rely upon them for their education.

RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

Following the 4th February talk on ‘Music in Hospitals’, the next meeting of the Retired Teachers Section will be on **Tuesday 4th March** when the annual **Silent Auction** will take place. This is always a popular event raising funds for the Section and as usual will be held at Hough End Centre starting at **10.30am** with coffee and tea available from 10.15am.

Joan Davenport is still in preparation for her hip replacement and sends her best wishes. Joan wants to convey her **thanks and appreciation** for all the cards and good wishes she received from members at Christmas and especially her surprise and pleasure at the splendid hamper of food for the season.

ACADEMIES

The spread of Academies remains a major issue in Manchester. Secondary and Primary schools, which as local authority schools have **democratic accountability** written into their structures, but find this to be no longer the case if they became part of the growing number of academy chains. Increasingly there is **no requirement** for parental or staff representation on the governing bodies and control can be remote. Tony Blair famously defined academies as ‘Independent Schools without the fees’, but independent of what?

TUPE will protect our members pay and conditions at the changeover to academy status but there is **no guarantee** that this protection will continue as the future unfolds. NUT seeks and has concluded **national agreements** with some of these chains and will continue to work to **protect members interests** in academies whilst opposing the loss of local authority control and democratic accountability that academisation represents.

GENERAL MEETING

Apologies to any member inconvenienced by the change of venue for the AGM in January. The decision to change the venue was made after the December issue of ‘The Manchester Teacher’ was produced.

The next General Meeting of MTA will take place on **Wednesday 26th February at The Barlow RC High School 4.30pm**. Refreshments will be

available.

Please try to attend, this is your opportunity to hear the latest information about ongoing Action on Pay and Conditions and updates on other pressing issues of the moment.

SUPPLY TEACHERS

NUT has published a **Charter for Supply Teachers** which urges schools to use only qualified teachers to cover for absent colleagues, to employ direct or through a Local Authority rather than Agencies so that the proper rate for the job is paid with an opportunity for pension contributions, and for a welcome pack of details and procedures to be provided on arrival at the school.

Further details at www.teachers.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS

Members should always be ready to invite new colleagues to join NUT, the largest and most effective Union of professional teachers.

If you have any colleagues training under the Schools Direct Scheme, tell them about NUT and invite them to join. Under this particular route to qualification they may not have been asked because it is not always clear which school they will be in when they start.



The professional and responsible union for all teachers