

CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION ACTION

Sadly there has been no **significant progress** in the talks about the ongoing dispute over salaries, pensions and conditions. Mr Gove and his team remain committed to his damaging policies and so the campaign continues. The strike action, suspended last month, will now go ahead on **Thursday 10th July**.

The ongoing campaign has succeeded so far in bringing **ministers** back into the negotiations, the Union's arguments persuaded the **STRB** to reject most of Mr Gove's ideas on conditions and **Shadow Cabinet** ministers have accepted the importance of only having qualified teachers in our schools.

The associated **leafleting** campaign has succeeded in alerting many more parents and the general public to the threat to education and support for teachers has been notable.

The **lobbying of MPs** is a crucial element in the campaign. One quarter of the MPs for England and Wales were lobbied at Westminster last month and lobbying continues in the constituencies. All members should please consider lobbying your MP either by letter or in person at their surgeries. It is an important part of the campaign; it does work.

Manchester has been one of the areas where support for the campaign has been strongest, the day of action last March was tremendous in the turnout, and more is looked for on 10th July. Some other unions in the public sector have balloted for strike action on that day. Unison members in schools, TA's, canteen staff and caretakers in your school will be out also.

The campaign is ongoing, the threats to teaching and education in general have not gone away, and this month sees the latest action. **Your support is vital.**

BRITISH VALUES

Schools are currently being urged in a non-specific way to teach British Values. Individuals will have different ideas on exactly what those values are and often it becomes a series of lists. Suggestions from teachers may well include:- a fair society, a living wage for all, care of the sick at a point of need regardless of wealth, recognition of the dignity of

labour and provision for security in retirement, the centrality of the importance of education in the life of the nation, not just for a better job but for a better life, the recognition of the importance of professional knowledge and expertise and its deployment for the good of society, freedom of worship, protection under the law and support for those in distress. There are more and not necessarily exclusive to Britain but the best teaching of them comes in their application and in the experiencing of them all around us. What is your list Mr Gove?

IS YOUR MP AWARE OF THIS?

Professional Teachers - Academies and Free Schools are now allowed to employ unqualified people as teachers. Teaching is a profession and needs a professional qualification however much a person may be enthusiastic about their degree subject.

School Places - Local Authorities are not allowed to open new schools where they are needed regardless of the fact that they face huge pupil place shortages. The Government only

allows new 'free' schools and these are often in the wrong place.

Teaching Conditions -

Five years after qualifying, two in every five teachers are no longer teaching and current systems of training are under recruiting. Morale is low, stress levels are high and conditions are deteriorating. Yet teaching can be such a fulfilling profession without the denigration of teachers and criticism of schools that comes so frequently from Mr Gove.

Privatisation - Our education system is being privatised and our schools are in danger of losing local accountability. Recent well documented failures in Free Schools and Academies show that they are not the panacea that Mr Gove would like us to believe. The education of our children is not 'up for grabs' and should not be 'for sale'.



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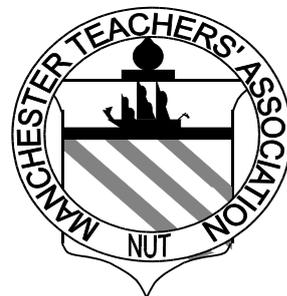
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If your MP is not aware of these things, perhaps you should tell him/her. Write to him/her now or go to see him/her.

RETIRED TEACHERS SECTION

Following the July talk on Manchester Cathedral Country House at Mellor by Sharon Adamson, the next meeting of the Section will be on **Tuesday 5th August**. There has had to be a change to the original programme here and now **Raymond Flint** will present a talk on 'Manchester in the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion'.

Arrangements are as usual, 10.15 for 10.30, Hough End Centre

GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting of Manchester Teachers' Association will be on **Wednesday 10th September**, the first of the new academic year. Look out for details of venue and agenda which will be in your school beforehand.

These are troubled times much is happening that will affect you and your school. All MTA members are entitled to attend, do try to be there.

TEACHERS BUILDING SOCIETY

There is much talk currently about the price of houses and the availability of mortgages. If you are looking to **savings** or seeking a **mortgage** you may benefit from contacting Teachers Building Society, the only building society endorsed by NUT.

You will, of course, know that your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up with repayments on your mortgage but TBS specialises in mortgage services for teachers, helping first time buyers onto the property ladder and providing products designed to meet the needs of teachers.

TBS has been part of the Union 'family' for **nearly fifty years** and has excellent experience in **helping teachers** and if you contact them it will not be an automated phone service on the other end.

Contact details are:-

Mortgages **0800 378 669**,

Savings **0800 783 2367** or **teachersbs.co.uk** or

Allenview House, Hanham Road, Wimborne, Dorset BH 21 1AG

NEW MEMBERS

The academic year is now in its final month but there may still be colleagues in your school who are not members but are ready to join NUT and will respond to a **personal invitation** from an existing member. Will you be the one to issue that invitation? Membership of NUT in Manchester continues to grow and further details on membership offers are available on **www.teachers.org.uk**

SUMMER AT STOKE ROCHFORD

Stoke Rochford Hall is a mid-Victorian country house with formal gardens and 28 acres of park land. It is the Union's Education and Training Centre but it also welcomes NUT members for short breaks or longer holidays. There are **reduced rates** for members and their families so if you are looking for a last minute **summer break** call Stoke Rochford to see if there is anything on offer to suit you.

Stoke Rochford Hall, Stoke Rochford, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG33 Tel: 01476 530337 email: enquiries@stokerochfordhall.co.uk

SUMMER HOLIDAY

As the end of term draws nearer and the summer holiday beckons, don't forget to have one! You have worked hard throughout, you have put in excessive time beyond the classroom, you have attended meetings, consultations and events, you have felt unappreciated and you are stressed. During the sum-



mer you will probably study your specialist subject, attend a course, prepare for next year but above all make sure you take a good break, you deserve it, you need it and not only you but the children and young people you teach will benefit from it.

Have a good summer!



The professional and responsible union for all teachers