



Dear colleague,

I am writing to ask you to support my campaign for Deputy General Secretary of your union.

Our education system is in crisis. We face funding cuts that deprive our young people of the support they need, unfair exams which undermine teacher judgement, and an inspection system which penalises educators and students, all underlined by poverty and inequality which run throughout the system.

It is time to work together; it is time for change.

We need a properly funded education system that supports the needs of every child, with real professional control over the curriculum, and an end to OFSTED/Estyn and the Exam Factory culture.

We need to end the fragmentation of the system and return education to local democratic control, within a truly comprehensive National Education Service which provides education from cradle to grave in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

All of this should be underlined by a national contract for all education workers — teachers, support staff, supply staff and lecturers. This is the only way to end the race to the bottom on pay and conditions. You can't put children first if you always put educators last.

In order to win this vision, we need a strong, united union with deep roots in the workplace and a network of support and alliances throughout the community. Most importantly, we need to bring educators together for change.



When we brought NUT and ATL together to create the National Education Union, we took a huge step forward in building the unity we need.

But we must go further. We must work to build true professional unity. If elected DGS, I will prioritise the creation of a single unified education union for classroom teachers, as a step towards a single union for all educators.

Within our union, the voice of all educators must be heard, including our support staff and supply members. We must continue to challenge the discrimination faced by Black, LGBT+, disabled and women members.

Throughout my career I have organised workplaces and led successful campaigns. I have fought to defend outdoor education, the music service, libraries, youth work and children's centres. I have helped save schools from closure.

A workplace rep since 2004, I have worked at every level in our union, including as local secretary and national executive member, and have represented the union locally, nationally and internationally.

I have played a key role in developing our union's workplace organising strategy, in developing our response during Covid, and led on bringing educators together to form the National Education Union.

I have worked with members from across the whole union, building unity and collaboration.

Now I want to help lead the fight for the future of our education system.

Yours faithfully,

Sign up at: together4change.education/#signup

Join the campaign
together4change.education
#togetherforchange

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TOGETHER FOR CHANGE IN EDUCATION

I will prioritise:

- 1 A properly funded education system that supports the needs of every child.
- 2 Winning real professional control over the curriculum and an end to OFSTED/Estyn and the Exam Factory culture.
- 3 A National Education Service to provide education from cradle to grave in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

TOGETHER FOR CHANGE IN THE WORKPLACE

I will promote:

- 4 A workplace strategy that puts professional judgement at the heart of the education system and tackles the workload crisis.
- 5 A coordinated national campaign for decent pay, supported by robust action. In the longer term a return to national collective bargaining must be the objective.
- 6 The fight for a national contract for all education workers — teachers, support staff and lecturers. This is the only way to end the race to the bottom on pay and conditions.

TOGETHER FOR CHANGE IN OUR UNION

I will work with others to deliver:

- 7 Strengthened equalities strands to raise the voices of our Black, LGBT+, disabled and women members, including a new Anti-Discrimination Unit — bringing together policy, organising and legal specialists — to tackle discrimination, sexism and sexual harassment faced by members and students in the workplace and wider society.
- 8 Greater engagement with all our members, including sector conferences, an annual reps conference and activist academy, and a weekly call with members to answer their questions. A rep training programme that is the envy of the trade union movement, delivered as part of a union training college that serves the needs of all our members. Digital tools for reps and members that place us at the cutting edge of the trade union movement
- 9 A robust bargaining strategy which combines workplace organisation and innovative campaigning to make us a powerful union from top to bottom, and which relies on a genuine commitment to professional unity — bringing education unions **together for change!**