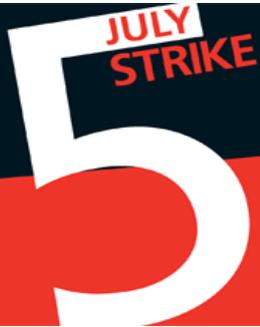




Enfield NUT News



Strike Edition



91.7% of members voting said
enough is enough

Strike on 5 July

NUT STRIKE ON JULY 5TH IS GOING AHEAD

Kevin Courtney, Acting General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers, the largest teachers' union, said: "The NUT is not taking action lightly. In light of the huge funding cuts to schools, worsening terms and conditions, and unmanageable and exhausting workloads, teachers cannot be expected to go on without significant change."

"There is already a teacher recruitment and retention crisis in our schools. Without significant change to the pay and working condition of teachers, this will simply deepen. We know that many parents share our concerns. At the absolute minimum, schools urgently need extra funding to meet the additional costs the Government has put on them through increased National Insurance and pension payments. This amounts to a 5% charge on the teachers' pay bill for schools. George Osborne is freezing the cash per pupil he gives to schools, whilst increasing what he takes from them. For every 20 teachers employed, a school has to find an extra teacher salary to give to the Treasury."

The government must fund schools sufficiently, tell academies to observe national terms and conditions and promise "meaningful talks" to avoid strike action by teachers next week, the National Union of Teachers has said.

STRIKE DAY MEETING POINT IN CENTRAL LONDON

Tuesday 5th July

- Assemble from 11am Portland Place (outside the BBC) London W1A 1AA (Great Portland Street tube)
- MARCH at 12noon
- RALLY from 1:30pm in Parliament Square

Strike Questions?

An NUT Strike Action FAQ is available on the Enfield NUT website at:
www.enfieldnut.org.uk/strike

In the meantime, some common questions from members who are not certain about whether to strike or not, are answered below:

I can't afford to lose the money	- If you are on UPS3 you will lose about £70-£100 and about £40-£65 if you are on M1.
I don't want to disrupt my students' learning	- Our working conditions are students' learning conditions. These will only get worse unless we stand up for the future of education. Students will lose 1/195 of your teaching this year for one day of strike action.
I don't want my school to think badly of me	- Many Head Teachers support the action. At the NAHT conference, 95% of Head Teachers passed a motion that 'no schools should be forced to become an academy'. Funding cuts affect all schools of all types.
I am not sure why we are striking	- To say no to education funding cuts, to say no to detrimental changes to national terms and conditions, to negotiate a national structure to protect teachers in both academies and in maintained schools.
I am worried it's a breach of contract	- Industrial action is a legitimate means of expressing opinion and workers have legal protection against action being taken against them.
I don't think striking will make a difference	- Strikes in 2011 forced an 8% increase in the Government's pensions offer. Strikes in 2013 were the biggest factor in persuading the STRB to turn down Michael Gove's request to de-regulate teacher working hours. Our days of action in 2014 have increased the pressure, leading to improved DfE guidance on using evidence in appraisal and pay decisions, on pay appeals and on equalities. It also helped force the publication of the teacher workload diary statistics and in part led to Michael Gove's removal.

Enfield NUT Benevolent Fund aims to assist NUT members in genuine financial difficulties who can apply for a small grant, including those experiencing such difficulties as a result of taking strike action. More details can be found on our website at:

www.enfieldnut.org.uk/benevolent-fund

If you have any questions about applying for the hardship fund, please email:
benevolentfund@enfieldnut.org.uk