

Stop school cuts.

National Weekend of Action 21st and 22nd April



As part of the National Weekend of Action, Enfield NEU members and Enfield parents were raising awareness and listening to School Cuts Stories from parents.

One mum said "All the TA's have gone & teachers don't stay because they are overworked. My daughter has had 3 teachers this year."



But some parents were unaware of government cuts to their school. So we must keep shouting about it!



London Reps Training Day

On Friday 27th April I joined many other colleagues from across London (5 of us from Enfield) at Hamilton House for the Reps training day. We began by listening to Martin Powell-Davis discussing our NEU priorities, then broke into groups to break down what we feel the role of the Rep is, what's going well in our schools from a Union perspective and what needs further work.



Many of us voiced the difficulty we have involving people more, getting members to attend meetings, etc. One inventive Rep has created a 'Loyalty Card' scheme, using freebies from the NUT as incentives!!! Discussions around recruitment followed, in particular bringing in new members who're part of Schools Direct and Teach First.

After lunch we looked at the do's and don'ts of negotiating at school level. The day ended with a talk from Jane Nellist on winning the Coventry Workload Charter and how we can work towards something similar in London.

As always, discussions with colleagues provided many useful ideas and Reps old and new left feeling empowered.

Sheila Roughneen

Top Tip:

Are temperatures in your school excessive?

Don't wait till it gets too hot to handle

Speak to Tony Lowe (H&S Officer) now

tony.lowe@neu.org.uk

Go on the [NEU](#) website and search for courses.

Or click [here](#) to go direct to courses for Reps.

NEU LGBT+ Conference 2018

This was my second time at the conference and even when I arrived I could tell it was so much bigger than last year. Educators were excited at the weekend to come and in the midst of what can be a very stressful time in the lead up to exams, SATs or GCSE & A Level, this conference offers the opportunity for us to meet, be inspired and return to school re energised and determined to make a difference.

The first workshop I attended was 'Trans and LGB+ inclusiveness and coming out at school', this workshop was facilitated by Jezza from the company Gendered Intelligence.

There are many times when we separate students by gender which is often a bad practise. Trans means people who feel that their sex/gender assigned at birth does not match or sit easily with them. Using the term "sex change" is not that appropriate as we recognise gender as a spectrum. Jezza gave us a few opportunities to break into small groups to discuss the differences between sex and gender. Jezza presented the group with some facts: 1 in 1500 are born with an intersex trait (ambiguous private parts). 1 in 100 fall under the broad trans umbrella. Sadly in the UK parents are required to register children within 6 weeks of birth WITH a gender of either Male or Female. This forces the parents of intersex babies to make a choice, a 50/50 guess as to what they think their child might be. Often leaving the child with complications from surgery. Countries such as Germany, Denmark and New Zealand, however, allow you register a baby without the male/female required.

Intersex and transgender can sometimes overlap and we were encouraged to use a different language when addressing students rather than just boys and girls in a classroom environment. Jezza spoke to us about ensuring we focus on the common language we have. They also discussed that there is a new gender title for those who identify as non-binary (Mx) which you can now get on some legal documents. Jezza also told us about the latest and very important legislation that is in place such as the Equality act of 2010 and the Gender recognition act of 2004, however, it only protects you if you identify as male or female.

Those who do not identify as either of these are not fully protected under these legislations.

This was a truly enlightening workshop for me and I left feeling very empowered and confident in supporting students who may struggle with their sex or gender. Thank you Jezza.

Michaela Dorrian



www.schoolcuts.org

TUC March for Working People 12th May

Tens of thousands of people attended this march to demand a new deal for working people. The NEU turn out was a bit disappointing but Enfield probably had the biggest division contingent. We met people from Dover and Bristol but not too many Londoners.



Claire's much admired banner

Enfield National Education Union - NUT Section

Gorray House

758 Great Cambridge Road

Enfield

EN1 3GN

Phone: 0208 443 7072