



**Education is in crisis.  
Will you join Enfield  
National Education  
Union on 12th May to  
march for an  
alternative?**

Teachers, support staff and education professionals, as well as parents and supporters, will march together as part of the Trades Union Congress (TUC) national demonstration.

- Pledge to join the march by [signing up here](#).
- Assemble at Victoria Embankment between Hungerford Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge from 11am on Saturday 12 May. Look out for our "Invest, Don't Cut" inflatables.
- Rally in Hyde Park, finishing at 4pm.

Look for the Enfield banner and let [claire.docherty@enfieldnut.org.uk](mailto:claire.docherty@enfieldnut.org.uk) know you are coming 07849211709. As always, the school that brings the most members will get a free round of drinks, after the march.

### Top Tip

**Education is broken.  
Being in the NEU means  
you can help to fix it by  
working together.**

### Annual Conference

The NEU-NUT Section Annual Conference was a great success. This year, as well as the delegates, we took six observers with us. They were able to engage with the debates and influence the voting of delegates, as well as enjoying all the fringe events that Conference has to offer. Enfield's own motion **Use Of Data To Set Target Grades For Students And Appraisal Objectives For Staff** was agreed unopposed. Enfield also seconded the motion for Greater London Pay. There are schools in outer London who are already taking action on this. Get in contact if you want to get your school involved. For the full Conference report, come to the next GM, for the observers feedback.



*Delegates and observers.*

### NEU AdviceLine

Tel: 0345 811 8111  
[Email NEU AdviceLine](mailto:NEU AdviceLine)

**Enfield National Education Union - NUT  
Section**

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**Enfield**

**EN1 3GN**

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### CHALLENGING SEXISM IN SCHOOLS

I left home on a , miserable Saturday morning in March thinking 'Why on earth did I decide to go to this conference?' Left Hamilton House later that day thinking 'That was BRILLIANT!'

The day started with Kevin Courtney highlighting the '[It's Just Everywhere](#)' document published by the NEU in partnership with UK Feminista. Get a copy. We then listened to two excellent talks, one given by Dr Victoria Showunmi titled 'Sex, Race and Class', the other by Professor Sophie Scott, titled 'Sex and the Brain'. Both spoke with incredible passion. Then a presentation by Emma Renold , titled 'Ruler-skirts and Rotifers: Creating Change with Young People to Address Sexism and Sexual Harassment in Schools.' She introduced us to 'Agenda: A Young People's Guide To Making Positive Relationships Matter'. This is absolutely crammed full with lesson ideas and information about making a difference, challenging sexual stereotypes/harassment, sexist comments, and raising awareness of gender-based and sexual violence. The 'Mixed-muffin Gender Berry Challenge' is an example of an simple activity that prompts a huge amount of discussion. I'm not going to explain it, you just have to get a copy of this publication! [www.agenda.wales](http://www.agenda.wales)

Lunch and a chance to chat with teachers, students, parents and 'interested parties' attending the conference followed. The afternoon was largely taken up by workshops. I chose 'Challenging stereotypes from EYFS through primary school' which was run by an organisation called 'Let Toys Be Toys'. We discussed their 'Ten Ways to Challenge Gender Stereotypes in the Classroom' with lesson plans that are available on their website: [www.lettoysbetoys.org.uk/schools](http://www.lettoysbetoys.org.uk/schools) and has other useful resources, too.

My second choice was 'Body image, Fitness and Mental Health' run by Shona from Show Racism the Red Card. Some of the images from current Biology textbooks made us mad! The plenary included talks from Scarlet Harris, TUC Women's Officer, Lucy Masoud, London FBU Regional Officer (very funny and an absolute inspiration) and Louise Regan, NEU Joint President. Resources and information from the day will be on the website. A HUGE thank you to the organisers!

Sheila Roughneen

### Annual Conference- Fringe Meeting. Education Under Blockade

Our journey to Cuba was a truly great experience and I was honoured to travel with a delegation of teachers. We arrived with 10 braille machines for the visually impaired students, who we later found out, would use them all their way to University. We all had big suitcases filled with 100 lunch trays and school supplies, along with letters from English students sending their best wishes. We visited all kinds of Schools. Primary and Secondary Schools in the city of Havana and the rural parts of the country, including a School for the Blind, Art, Music and Dance Schools and a University. On many of the visits to Schools, we were bid farewell with beautiful music, dancing and singing. It is clear a holistic education has wonderful results, the students were happy, it was a joy to be there. The academic level was also impressive, when Primary and Secondary students were asked; "What do you want to do in the future?" They all reflected high goals such as, becoming Doctors or Teachers. They explicitly wanted to make a positive difference in their communities. For me, it was a real surprise to learn about the Literacy Campaign of 1961. Students and Teachers travelled all over the country, teaching everyone to read and write, and within a year, Cuba was free of illiteracy. When I did some further reading about the Literacy Campaign, I was thrilled to see what a grassroots movement was capable of achieving. I also read that if those who were learning to read and write, had problems with their vision, they would be taken to the opticians and given a free pair of glasses. Visiting the Schools was a privilege. To experience a small taste of a society based on genuine principles of solidarity, equality and respect for one another was refreshing and a great example of humanity.

Valentina Furlong

