



# Enfield NUT News



June 2016

## VOTE YES

Ballot papers have now been sent out. If you haven't received yours by Thursday 26 May, call the Ballot Hotline on 020 7380 6300.

## Ballot for Strike Action

Your pay and conditions are at risk. Don't be fooled into thinking that Nicky Morgan backed down from her plan to force all schools to become academies. While she may have said that she was listening to the outcry from parents, teachers, head teachers and her own MPs, her hearing was selective as **the government has re-affirmed their plan to convert all schools to academies in the next six years** just without using the word 'forced.'

You currently have statutory rights to your terms and conditions, including the right to pay progression, restrictions on working hours (195 days & 1265 hours a year), sick & maternity pay and much more. **Although most academies currently follow the terms and conditions set out in the STPCD and the Burgundy Book, if all schools become academies they won't need to and can instead set their own terms and conditions.** This would mean that the MAT (Multi Academy Trust) Chief Executive and unelected board would make all the decisions about all your pay and working conditions.

We are balloting members for strike action. **This won't be a strike against academies but a strike for the terms and conditions of all teachers, whatever type of school they work in.** We are seeking a guarantee from the government that the protections from the STPCD and Burgundy Book continue and apply to all. We are also demanding that the government reverse the cuts and increase funding so that terms and conditions can improve. Your support is needed. When your ballot form arrives, cast your vote and vote yes.

NUT Advice Line  
020 3006 6266  
[nutadvice@nut.org.uk](mailto:nutadvice@nut.org.uk)

## What is a MAT?

**Multi-academy trusts are national, remote organisations that don't give local schools and communities a say.**

The DfE say that Multi Academy Trusts empower the frontline (the teachers) and move control away from managers and bureaucrats (they mean the local authority) The DfE claim MATs are an effective way of improving performance - holding the Schools to account for the results they achieve, and imposing stricter standards of financial propriety than exists in local-authority schools.

The NUT explain that **Local authorities have not "controlled" schools since the 1988 Education Act introduced Local Management of Schools (LMS).**

Local authorities take responsibility for matters affecting the whole area such as: fair admissions; special educational needs provision; school improvement; school land and buildings maintenance; home to school transport; and dealing with emergencies such as a fire or flood.

However, sometimes things go wrong at school level and parents need to know where to turn. Elected parent and LA appointed governors sit on the governing body of all community schools and can take up parents' concerns.

Where a MAT runs a number of schools its headquarters may be many miles away from where parents live and send their child to school. **MATs can control every aspect of how a school is run so the school has less control over its affairs than when it was part of the local authority family of schools.** MATs can also choose to get rid of governing bodies, as the E-ACT academy chain has chosen to do.

## KEY CONTACTS

Enfield Teachers' Association  
Office: 020 8443 7072  
[office@enfieldnut.org.uk](mailto:office@enfieldnut.org.uk)



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## Teachers support the BMA



Enfield NUT members in solidarity with the BMA, marched over Westminster Bridge and on to the department for Health. They braved the weather, battling on through the rain and snow, protesting at the Government's foolishness at taking on the two most trusted professions in the UK.

## Defend Our Terms & Conditions

What you can do:

Visit our twitter page and re-tweet our tweets  
Help organise a meeting at your school  
[PowerPoint for school meetings](#)

Don't have a Rep? Ask us to visit  
[office@enfieldnut.org.uk](mailto:office@enfieldnut.org.uk)

Speak to parents. Contact us if you would like to distribute leaflets

Volunteer to contact members about the importance of voting via  
[volunteer](#)

Put up a copy of the poster that we sent to each school  
[poster- A threat to us all](#)

## 'This School' sung by Members of the NUT

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May members met to record 'This School,' an anti-academy anthem and rally cry to defend our schools from the threat of privatisation. It was a fantastic experience to sing with colleagues and even some nurses from the NHS choir. Enfield NUT was represented by Richard Baldwin, Kathie Hall and myself, Sue Sheibani (and possibly others? Do let us know if you were there!). It was both inspiring and unifying.

Jackie Schneider deserves a big thank you for all her work on preparing the song and leading the rehearsals and singing, supported by Ruth Serwotka, amongst others.



Please [watch the song](#) and share as we want as many people as possible to hear us and to understand what is happening to our schools and our children's education. This affects everyone and I'm very proud to have played a small part in getting the message out there.

*Sue Sheibani*

### Top Tip

"If there is no struggle there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without the thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will." *Frederick Douglass.*

