

# SATs ballot

It's official. Both the Union and our colleagues in the National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) will be balloting heads, deputies and assistant heads with a view to boycotting the KS2 SATs this year. This would not, of course, be strike action. Schools will be open and children taught.

The constituency for this ballot is those who have a contractual responsibility for the administration of the SATs. Other colleagues will not be balloted but will be asked to continue our educational campaign against SATs.

The Union will be advising on the proper role of classroom teachers in both the industrial dispute and the ongoing campaign. Ballot papers will be sent out to relevant members from 15 March, with the ballot closing at midday on 16 April 2010.

Both the NUT and the NAHT will be encouraging those balloted to vote 'YES'. We will also continue other activities such as members' meetings addressed by NUT General Secretary Christine Blower and NAHT General Secretary Mick Brookes during March.

## Stepping up the campaign

Over the coming weeks, further briefings and information on the ballot, together with updates on our wider educational campaign to end SATs will be sent out to members and posted on the NUT website. There will also be updates in *The Teacher* magazine.

In the meantime, if you have any questions on the campaign or would like to get involved, please contact your NUT association/division or your regional office.

Our assessment reform petition has now been signed by nearly 30,000 members and supporters. If you've not already done so, please sign it at [www.teachers.org.uk/assessment](http://www.teachers.org.uk/assessment) and ask your friends and colleagues to sign it too.



**Christine Blower, General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said:**

***"Your support is vital to the success of this campaign. If you are a member of the leadership group, please vote 'Yes' in the industrial action ballot. If you are a classroom teacher, please tell your head teacher and leadership colleagues that you would fully support their action to not administer SATs in 2010. Ask parents and your colleagues to sign our petition and write to their MP at [www.teachers.org.uk/assessment](http://www.teachers.org.uk/assessment)."***

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