stand up for education

Why teachers are striking:
- excessive workload and bureaucracy
- performance related pay
- unfair pension changes

Our campaign for education:
- enough good teachers
- enough school places
- proper funding
Teachers are taking strike action to protect our pay, pensions and conditions. Michael Gove’s changes will affect us, but they will also affect the standards of education for your children.

Michael Gove could have avoided this strike if he had been willing to compromise or negotiate seriously with teachers.

Workload

• Teachers’ levels of workload are intolerable – the Government’s own survey, published last month, shows that primary school teachers work nearly 60 hours a week and secondary school teachers work nearly 56 hours a week.

• Government policies mean that far too much time is spent on bureaucratic box-ticking that stops teachers focusing on teaching.

• Many teachers are leaving the profession due to workload pressures. This is bad for children and bad for education.
Teachers are taking action on 26 March

Pay

• The Government’s performance related pay is creating bureaucracy as well. It is moving ahead despite the international evidence that PRP in teaching doesn’t work. This will affect children too as teachers focus on the matters that affect their pay.

• Destroying the national pay framework means that in every school head teachers and governors have to worry about developing a pay system instead of focusing on teaching and learning.

Pensions

• Teachers don’t believe that they can work to 68 or even later for a full pension – and they don’t believe it is educationally desirable either.

• The NUT recognises that other workers are having their pensions squeezed. We believe that this is wrong too – everyone should be entitled to a decent standard of living in retirement.
• Ensure every classroom has a qualified teacher.

• Allow councils to open new schools where needed.

• Make sure changes to the curriculum and exams are positive and planned.

• Ensure there are enough teachers – stop picking fights with the ones we’ve got.

• Fund our schools properly and get them working together.

Visit www.teachers.org.uk/parents to register your support, email your MP and get campaign updates.