Education
White Paper

The wrong priorities for our children

Calling all parents, grandparents, carers, governors, teachers and support staff!

Join the campaign against the White Paper

www.teachers.org.uk
1. It’s the wrong priority

The Government should be dealing with the real issues facing schools and parents – the growing teacher shortage, the lack of pupil places, the curriculum chaos and the funding crisis.

2. It’s ineffective

The Government hasn’t produced evidence that becoming an academy improves standards of education. Professor Stephen Machin says: “I don’t think we have any evidence on that so far. We certainly have no evidence at all for primary schools.”

Meanwhile, Ofsted says that many academy chains are performing very badly.
3. It’s undemocratic

This proposal wasn’t in the Conservatives’ manifesto last year. Over 80% of local authority schools are good or outstanding and have chosen to stay with their local authority. They will be forced to become academies. Parents will lose the right to elect parent governors and will be denied any say over who runs their child’s school.

4. It’s expensive

Estimates are as high as £1.3bn for the process of academisation – mainly spent on lawyers, not on education – while schools are facing huge funding cuts. Academy chains pay their chief executives very high salaries – some more than the Prime Minister – and there are many cases of financial irregularity.
Our schools need more funding

The funding freeze and higher costs mean real terms cuts of up to 10% or more by 2020. That’s the equivalent of over 30,000 teachers or over 90,000 classroom assistants. Parents will see class sizes rising, less individual attention for their children, and support services being cut. That’s why higher funding is a central part of our campaign.

Oppose the proposal to force all schools to become academies.

Visit the NUT website www.teachers.org.uk to sign up to support the campaign. Join hundreds of thousands of others in signing the online petitions against the White Paper.