Education
White Paper

The wrong
priorities for
our children

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.

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

Join the campaign
against the White Paper

www.teachers.org.uk
Education White Paper
The wrong priorities for our children

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.