

# Bulletin

for EIS Representatives and Branch Secretaries



The Educational  
Institute of Scotland

**November 2021**

**www.eis.org.uk**

## Covid-19

The EIS will be running a webinar on ventilation and risk assessments in Early November.

**Action for Reps:** Please check the EIS website under 'What's Going On' for more information on dates and times.

## Heating and Ventilation Checklist

Included with this bulletin is an updated heating and ventilation checklist for EIS Reps. This incorporates the recent revised advice on CO2 monitors from Scottish Government.

The checklist is intended for use as a guide for EIS reps to check that the arrangements detailed in the revised CERG guidance on heating and ventilation are being implemented in your school. You can use this checklist as a basis to investigate complaints about heating and ventilation issues in buildings.

**Action for Reps:** Following completion of the checklist, you should draw your headteacher's attention to any issues that need to be addressed. A copy should also be sent to your LA Secretary to enable the EIS to monitor and provide support when required. In addition, you should request an Action Plan from your headteacher which outlines the timescales for remedies to be provided which address the issues raised.

## SRUC

Colleagues in EIS-ULA within The Scottish Rural University College are currently taking strike action. They are in dispute with management over a long overdue pay and grading review to bring their salaries in line with the rest of the sector. They are currently paid much less than the University Sector average as well as significantly less than FE colleagues and schoolteachers. Day five of their strike action will take place on Thursday 4th November.

**Action for reps:** Please ask colleagues to support the dispute on social media using **#FairPayForSRUC**

## Your EIS Local Association

If you have an issue that you need help resolving contact your Local Association Secretary. EIS Local Associations also meet regularly to discuss local issues and members are welcome to attend and stand for positions on the committee of management.

**Action for Reps:** Visit the EIS Local Association website to discover what meetings and events they are running over the coming months and to get involved.

## Updating Member Details

If you have new colleagues in your school who are EIS members, they should update their school base or personal contact details on the MyEIS section of the website. Remind them to log on using their EIS number. It is quick and simple to set up a password.

**Action for Reps:** Alternatively, as Rep you should have access to member lists for your school and you can update details on their behalf also using the MyEIS section which you can access at [www.eis.org.uk/Account/EISLogin](http://www.eis.org.uk/Account/EISLogin)

## Probationer Teachers

Probationers that did not join as student members are eligible to join the EIS as full members and this is FREE for up to 16 months from the start of their probation.

**Action for Reps:** Please approach any probationers in your school and encourage them to join for free.

## TUC Training Courses for Reps

Training for Representatives is available for all School Reps, with many of our courses run in conjunction with the TUC. There are still places for courses that are running later this year. The 4-day EIS TUC Reps Training course is offered in 2 x 2-day blocks and is aimed at Reps who are relatively new in the role or those who have had no formal union training. There are also short Rep's courses delivered by Organisers, Area Officers and Local Associations that may be of interest. A full list of dates for the courses is available on the EIS website.

**Action for Reps:** If you are a Rep, Health and Safety Rep or are a member interested in becoming one then please contact your Local Association Secretary to be nominated, who will then register with Jennifer Cook ([JCook@eis.org.uk](mailto:JCook@eis.org.uk)).

## Equality in Focus Webinar Series

Reps are particularly encouraged to attend the EIS Equality in Focus learning series, funded by Scottish Union Learning to increase confidence and commitment in relation to equality matters within Union activity. The upcoming workshops in this series are:

**Mobilising against Anti-Muslim prejudice at work: 2nd November 4pm – 6.30pm.** This workshop will build on the EIS resource on Challenging Anti-Muslim Prejudice, to facilitate discussion about practical interventions in the workplace.

**Autism Appropriate Workplaces: 23rd November 4pm-6.30pm.** This workshop will share the work of the EIS Autism Appropriate Workplaces Focus Group and consider how workplaces can be better for Autistic staff, and what Reps and colleagues can do to advance this aim.

**Furthering Disability Equality at Work: Tuesday 7th December 4pm – 6.30pm** This workshop will utilise a forthcoming film developed by a steering group of disabled EIS members to discuss disability equality in the context of education, and good practice for inclusive workplaces.

**Dynamics of Gender at Work: Tuesday 18th January 4pm – 6.30pm.** This workshop will consider themes arising from the EIS One Thousand Women's Voices project, consider how Reps and members can further gender equality in the workplace and the practical steps required.

**Action for Reps:** Please book your place via the EIS website and share with members.

## Informal Equality Networks

The next meetings of the EIS BAME Network, and the EIS Disabled Members Network will include information about joining EIS decision making structures, and feature Q&A sessions about workplace rights, reasonable adjustments and the case handling protocol.

**Action for Reps:** Please share these opportunities with members and encourage BAME and Disabled members to sign up.

## Inspection Advice

Further to the details of the planned return of Scrutiny activity' inspections published on the Education Scotland website on 16 September 2021, updated EIS advice has been included with this bulletin.

**Action for Reps:** Please share the latest advice with your members.

## Briefing for EIS members on Digital Poverty

The EIS has launched a new briefing for EIS members on Digital Poverty. This is part of the EIS's continuing impact of poverty in education campaign and the first in a series of briefings that will culminate in the publication, later this session, of refreshed advice on how EIS members might seek to mitigate the impact of poverty in the classroom and the wider school.

**Action for Reps:** The briefing can be found in the child poverty section of the EIS website at [www.eis.org.uk/Child-Poverty/DigitalPoverty](http://www.eis.org.uk/Child-Poverty/DigitalPoverty). Please refer to and make members aware of this advice to inform collegiate discussion within your establishment regarding equity.

## Professional Learning

A selection of professional learning courses will be delivered online throughout October and November. Details of these courses have been included with this bulletin.

**Action for Reps:** Please promote these opportunities within your local areas. For more information, or if you would like leaflets to circulate at meetings and events, please contact Pauline McColgan ([pmccolgan@eis.org.uk](mailto:pmccolgan@eis.org.uk))