



## Message from the General Secretary

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to this first Representatives bulletin of the new session; I hope you enjoyed your break.

With the upcoming launch of our campaign to tackle excessive workload 2019-20 is set to be as busy as ever.

I would like to take this opportunity to express the Institute's gratitude for all the work which you carry out on behalf of the members. School Reps and Branch Secretaries are essential to the work of the Institute and I thank you for the selfless work you do on behalf of colleagues.

Best wishes,

Larry Flanagan  
General Secretary

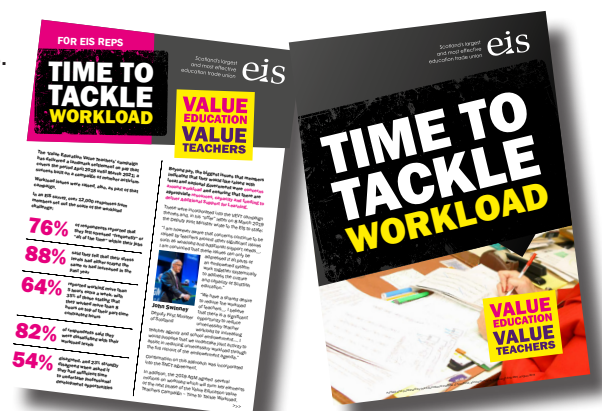
## Value Education, Value Teachers – Time to Tackle Workload

Following the success of the Value Education, Value Teachers campaign in securing the pay deal, the EIS is now focusing on workload issues. This is a major agenda for members, as testified in a recent survey, and the pay agreement itself spoke about tackling excessive workload through the empowering schools agenda.

Please consider holding a branch meeting to brief members about the forthcoming campaign. A Power Point presentation to use as an aid is available at [www.eis.org.uk/Time-To-Tackle-Workload/Powerpoint](http://www.eis.org.uk/Time-To-Tackle-Workload/Powerpoint)

### Action for Representatives:

You will recently have received Time to Tackle Workload posters and leaflets. Please ensure these are on display in your establishment.



## Recruitment

As you will be aware, it is always important at the start of term to identify new staff members and to ensure that their membership details are transferred or, in the case of new teachers and probationers, that they are recruited into the union. Statistics show that the single biggest reason individuals give for not joining a union is that they are simply never asked. Your role as a school Rep or Branch Secretary, therefore, is absolutely vital in this regard.

Members can join on the EIS website [www.eis.org.uk](http://www.eis.org.uk) or additional membership packs can be acquired from the Organisation Department at HQ. If you require any additional materials or support, please let us know.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make every effort to sign up new eligible staff in your establishment for EIS membership. If it would be of assistance, EIS speakers can be organised to attend school meetings.

## Violence in the Workplace

The EIS recognises that the issue of violence in schools is a major concern for EIS members. As a result of an AGM Resolution, posters with information and advice on working with violent and disruptive pupils have been produced.

Teachers are encouraged to report all abusive incidents including violence, threats of violence and verbal attack.

In addition, any EIS member who has been subject to violence in the workplace has an absolute entitlement to raise a complaint with the Police. Members are advised that, unless there is a police report and a complaint, the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) cannot award compensation to victims.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please display the enclosed posters in your establishment.

## Membership Lists

It is important that our membership records are as accurate as possible; membership lists are available online and should be updated regularly with any changes to the staffing within your school.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Log on to our website [www.eis.org.uk](http://www.eis.org.uk) and update your membership list with any new members in your school, including probationers; you should also remove any members who have left.

## Refreshed EIS Advice on Education Scotland Inspections

The EIS has updated advice to members on Education Scotland inspections, taking account of the recent changes that there have been to the procedures surrounding them. Both general and sector-specific (Primary/Nursery, Secondary and Special) advice is available and can be accessed at [www.eis.org.uk/Member-Support/Inspections](http://www.eis.org.uk/Member-Support/Inspections)

**Action for Representatives:** Please bring this updated advice to the attention of members in your Branch, with a view to it being used in the event of an Education Scotland inspection of your school.

## Gwen Mayor Trust

The Gwen Mayor Memorial Trust was established following the tragic events in Dunblane Primary School on 13 March 1996, when teacher, Gwen Mayor, lost her life along with 16 pupils. The purpose of the trust is “to advance education by providing financial support for projects in connection with the arts, culture, music or sport submitted to the Trustees by primary schools or departments in Scotland.”

Applications are now invited from primary schools and departments in Scotland. Proposed projects should fall within the purpose of the fund as set out above. Requests for full or partial funding of projects will be considered.

A letter is enclosed giving details of the Gwen Mayor Trust and how to apply for funding support.

**Action for Representatives:** Please pass the enclosed letter to your Headteacher.