

for EIS Representatives and Branch Secretaries

Scotland's largest and most effective education trade union



October 2019 www.eis.org.uk



Time to Tackle Workload Campaign

EIS Council met Friday 20th September and approved the strategy for the Time to Tackle Workload (TTTW) Campaign – consisting of two concurrent workstreams. A workstream will seek reductions in teacher workload through the development and implementation of the school empowerment agenda. A further workstream will seek reductions to class sizes/contact at the SNCT.

The former workstream will be implemented this academic year and it utilises the increased role for teacher agency in the empowerment system being developed and implemented for Scottish Education; tackling excessive workload through teachers taking control.

Council approved the development of an extensive programme of training seminars to be run across the country on how school branches can identify and address the drivers of workload in their schools. An additional programme of campaign briefings was also agreed for LA Secretaries. Nationally, it was agreed to "map" workload drivers in order to support the development of bespoke training materials for the campaign.

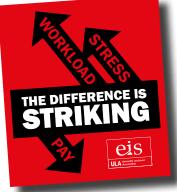
Action for Representatives: School reps should continue to build school branches and start considering the workload drivers within their schools. Reps will be invited to EIS training in due course.

School reps are also asked to consider and implement the EIS Guidance on the Scottish Government's newly issued Devolved School Management Guidelines www.eis.org.uk/Time-To-Tackle-Workload/DSM

ULA Pay Campaign Ballot

The EIS University Lecturer's Association (ULA) have launched a Pay Campaign and will ballot members asking if they would be willing to take strike action on pay. The ballot opened on Wednesday 18th September and will run until Wednesday 30th October. Visit www.eis.org.uk/ULA/StatutoryBallot for more information.

Action for Branch Secretaries: Contact your Organiser to arrange a branch meeting with members for updates throughout the campaign and for support in encouraging members to vote.





Celebrating World Teachers' Day, Saturday 5th October

To commemorate World Teachers' Day (WTD), the EIS has commissioned a special poster (enclosed) by trade union artist Jamie-Max Caldwell, reflecting the success of the Value Education, Value Teachers campaign and marking the shift in the focus of our campaigning to tackling workload through the empowerment agenda.

Held annually on 5 October, WTD is an important opportunity to celebrate the teaching profession and to promote the ILO/ UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966). This year's theme is "Young Teachers: The Future of the Profession."

Education International, a global affiliation of teacher unions and of which the EIS is a member, is clear that the voices of teachers must be heard throughout the world and that governments must be reminded of their obligation to improve the status of the teaching profession by ensuring the full implementation of the UNESCO/ILO Recommendations on teachers.

This poster, together with associated social media activity around the 5th, including a blog post from General Secretary Larry Flanagan, are some of the ways that the EIS contribute to those efforts.

Action for Representatives: Please display posters prominently in your establishment and encourage members to tweet @ eisunion using the hashtag #worldteachersday #tackleworkload, and to visit the EIS website.

Repeal of Legislation Relating to the Named Person Service

Following an announcement in the Scottish Parliament on Thursday 19th September, the legal duty upon local authorities to provide a Named Person Service (NP) and a Named Person for every child, has been withdrawn and now no longer stands. The Scottish Government will now repeal the relevant legislation from the Children and Young People Act (2014).

Voluntary schemes that provide a named point of contact may continue where councils and health boards wish to provide them, and where parents wish to use them.

The EIS supported the rationale underpinning the original legislation but has repeatedly voiced concerns about inadequate resourcing of the scheme, the workload implications for those acting as Named Persons and potentially their colleagues, and in relation to the data-sharing element of the NP Service which was found to be unlawful.

The EIS is clear that whilst this legislation may be repealed, the pastoral care needs of children and young people remain and require to be met through proper resourcing.

With this in mind, School Branches in local authorities which have been operating a Named Person Service on a nonmandatory basis and plan to continue to do so, are advised to revisit the operating procedures in their schools, with a view to ensuring that associated workload is being overtaken within the parameters of:

- the 35-hour working week
- Working Time Agreements
- LNCT agreements which determine specific duties and job remits on a devolved basis.

Thereafter any concerns unresolved through discussion with the SMT should be raised with the Local Association Secretary in the first instance.

New Teaching Resources – Palestine and Israel, Understanding the Conflict

A skills based resource focused on the conflict between Palestine and Israel is now available. Initially started as a joint production with various partners, including Education Scotland, the EIS assumed ownership of the resource in order to make it available to as many teachers as possible.

In a turbulent world with many conflicts, it is essential that pupils are equipped to navigate contested topics, evaluate evidence and arrive at their own conclusions.

The materials, containing both Student and Teacher Guides as well as links to relevant film



and other media, are pitched at CfE Levels 2/3 and Levels 3/4, for use in both primary and secondary. They are of most interest perhaps in the teaching of Social Studies, Literacy and English, and Citizenship.

The resource, which can be adapted by teachers to suit the needs of learners as appropriate, can be found on the EIS website.

Action for Representatives: Please distribute the leaflets included with this bulletin in your establishment and signpost members to the resource in the Policy and Publications section of the EIS website.

Professional Learning

Enclosed with this bulletin is a leaflet detailing a selection of free, one day Professional Learning courses taking place throughout October and November. Please promote these opportunities within your establishments.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: Please promote these opportunities within your establishments. For further professional learning information please contact Pauline McColgan (pmccolgan@eis.org.uk).

EIS H&S Reps TUC Training

The 2019-20 programme of EIS Health & Safety Reps Training Courses will run as follows:

Aviemore (Cairngorm Hotel) 6th-7th February 2020. Nomination return by Friday 17th January 2020.

Glasgow (City of Glasgow College – Riverside Campus) 20th-21st February 2020. Nomination return by Friday 31st January 2020.

Edinburgh (HQ Training Suite) – 14th-15th May 2020. Nomination return by Friday 24th April 2020.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: If you or another EIS H&S Rep at your school wish to attend a training course please contact your Local Association Secretary or FELA/ULA Branch Secretary. For further information please contact your EIS Organiser through www.eis.org.uk/Contacts/Organisers

Probationer Teachers & New Teachers

New probationer teachers and/or new teachers may be joining your school this new term. This is an excellent opportunity to welcome them and to build your Branch.

Last year's EIS student members automatically transfer this year to full EIS membership as probationer teachers.

Action for Representatives: Please approach any probationer teacher at your school to introduce yourself as the EIS representative. If they are not a member then please encourage them to join online - EIS membership for probationer teachers is free.

Please also approach any new teachers at the school in order to introduce yourself and to promote EIS membership if they are not a member of a trade union.

EIS Organisers

The work of EIS Organisers focuses on the recruitment and retention of members and developing wider membership engagement with the union. Part of their role is also to support the EIS campaigning agenda; they help communicate key campaign and policy messages to members in their workplaces. Organisers are assisting L.A.s and schools in the current pay campaign and are available to help support you in your school.

Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries: If you wish advice or support regarding engaging members in your school with the pay campaign please contact your EIS Organiser.

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