





# SCHOOLS

Dear GMB Member

### **Launch of School Funding Cuts Campaign Consultative Survey (England)**

GMB, the union for school support staff, is stepping up our campaign to challenge the Government's chronic underfunding and cuts to schools.

GMB members tell us that the workload keeps increasing yet the funding keeps going down. This vicious cycle of school funding cuts has to STOP!

The facts are as follows:

- 1. 11,000 support staff jobs were lost in England between 2016 and 2017
- 2. £2.8 billion has been cut from school budgets since 2015
- 3. More than half of support staff have spent their own money on essential items for pupils
- 4. 37% of heads say they have cut support staff jobs or hours worked due to the funding crisis.

The above facts are set to get worse if we don't step up our campaign. That's why in the New Year your union will step up our working alongside sister unions as there are significant merits in working together with all unions to stop the cuts.

You may already know NEU, NAHT & ASCL are already balloting their members.

Cuts to funding affect all school staff across all schools in England. Cuts have impacts on jobs, pay, terms and conditions and on the delivery of Education.

That's why in the New Year we will be inviting you to join the GMB's campaign to stop the cuts.

The campaign will include a GMB consultative survey which will be launched in the New Year. GMB members will be asked a series of questions including whether members want the GMB to trigger an industrial action campaign which could lead to a full ballot of our members, similar to the other trade unions, in order to defend education.

Full details will be issued shortly setting out how you can support the campaign and how you and your colleagues can get involved.

Strength is in our numbers so you will need to ask colleagues not in a union to sign up to GMB and support the campaign.

This newsletter is a heads up so you know your union is working with you to defend education, your pay, your terms and conditions, your employment and your ability to deliver a first-class education service to the children and students.

We want to hear from you as to how we shape the campaign in the New Year. Please email: schools@gmb.org.uk. Doing nothing is not an option. We hope you and your colleagues will support this campaign.

Further details are to follow, but for now please follow the link <a href="https://youtu.be/T7xGUTUbi1Q">https://youtu.be/T7xGUTUbi1Q</a> and watch a message from GMB President Barbara Plant, someone who knows all about the cuts in education as a member of the school support staff army.

**Best Wishes** 

**GMB Schools Team** 

### JOIN ONLINE: WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN

## Join mow for protection, support and advice.

Hand this form to your local GMB representative, or post it by simply writing 'Freepost GMB' on an envelope. You don't need a stamp or any other address details. Questions? Email us at info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website: www.gmb.org.uk where you can also join instantly.

#### **PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS**

SIGN WHERE YOU SEE THE Xs

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FOR GMB Section Branch number	Membership number		Join date	