

Our students are much more than a score!

The Union is building for a ballot of leadership members about boycotting this year's SATs as part of a campaign to end this failed system.

The "More Than a Score" coalition is building links with other campaigning groups, such as "Let Kids be Kids," "the Cambridge Primary Review" amongst many others.

The "More Than A Score" website contains videos which could be used to get the message out to members and parents which can be found on: <https://morethanascore.co.uk/>

We were seeking to build the boycott alongside leadership colleagues in the NAHT but following the minor concessions coming out of the DfE, such as removing Y7 SATs resits, this collaboration looks more unlikely. They appear to be trying to sell these concessions to their members. It is important to try to talk to NAHT heads to try to keep them onboard with the campaign.

The NUT do not think these concessions are nearly enough and from the surveys of NUT members 96% of those surveyed were not

confident that these measures by government would have any significant impact. In addition 82% of

members surveyed felt that the NUT should continue in its call for the suspension of SATs.

National Education Union ready to roll!

On Saturday November 5, NUT and ATL conferences agreed to ballot members on establishing a new Union – the NATIONAL EDUCATION UNION. Notts NUT delegates to the NUT Special Conference voted in favour of the motion to create the merged union.

Our association proposed two amendments to the original motion from the NUT National Executive, the first of which was passed with a majority of over 92%.

Four of our delegates spoke in the debate: Sue Ellis, Rob Illingworth, Jane Crich and Liam Conway.

The full wording of the motion passed can be seen below. The section highlighted in **blue** is the agreed amendment from Nottinghamshire Association of Teachers. We will be encouraging members to vote yes in the merger ballot in 2017.

"Conference welcomes the progress made in negotiations between the ATL and NUT on an amalgamation of our two unions to form a new union.

Conference endorses the rules for the new union, the instrument of amalgamation and the transitional rules attached to this motion, subject to members subsequently voting in favour of the amalgamation.

Conference therefore instructs the Executive to proceed to ballot members in spring 2017 on the formation of a new union with a recommendation to vote in favour of the proposal.

Conference believes that the creation of a new education union will break the log-jam on Professional Unity that has blighted our profession for too long, allowed successive governments to divide us and diverted energy and

resources into competitive recruitment ballots.

Conference believes that the move towards a new union will be welcomed by teachers, and the wider trade union movement, as a significant step towards our aim of one union for all teachers.

Conference further believes that the new union should, in principle, be ready to open talks with other teacher unions about developing this project further.

Conference calls on the Executive to approach the ATL to seek agreement to add the following to section 1 Disciplinary Offences of Appendix A of the proposed new rules.

1.2 It is expressly provided that the following may not be the subject of disciplinary action.

- a) opinions expressed by members on matters of union policy and management.***
- b) statements or actions of members in the course of representation of members' interests otherwise upon a complaint endorsed by a local branch that the statements or actions may be seen to bring the Union into disrepute."***



Sue Ellis, making her first ever NUT Conference speech.



Huge Education cuts planned for Education

England's schools are now experiencing the largest real terms cuts in funding in more than a generation.

In real terms, schools will lose huge amounts of money rising to **£2.5 billion a year by 2020**. 92% of schools will have their funding cut.

Alongside the concerns about SATs, curriculum provision, grammar schools and the crisis in teacher recruitment this is a challenging time for education and we wanted parents to be able to get involved in discussing these issues. This is why we have set up the BIG DEBATE.

NUT General Secretary, Kevin Courtney says, "No head teacher should be put in the position of increasing class sizes, leaving building repairs undone or cutting staff and resources simply to balance the books. Nor should any parent accept this for their child. We are one of the richest countries in the world. We can and we should be funding our schools properly."

ATL General Secretary, Mary Bousted says, "The Government must increase funding for schools.

If it just reallocates the existing budget many children will lose out, with some of the most deprived hit hardest. The formula for schools' funding must not be reformed while making real terms cuts to spending. All children deserve a fair chance to succeed and should not suffer because schools are under-resourced and teachers over-worked."

We have invited a number of representatives from different sectors of education to be on the panel including local politicians, school leaders, union representatives and Alan Gibbons (Children's author and education campaigner)

Local Cuts: (Budget Changes for 2020)

- ☒ Arnold Hill Academy: - £404,379 (10%)
- ☒ Redhill Academy: -£236,364 (4%)
- ☒ Christ the King Academy: - £179,418 (5%)
- ☒ Ernehale Infant School: - £92,951 (12%)
- ☒ Arnold View Primary: - £49,898 (5%)
- ☒ Arno Vale Juniors: -£71,508 (8%)
- ☒ Woodthorpe Infants: - £74,271 (11%)
- ☒ The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School: -£153,790 (11%)
- ☒ Coppice Farm Primary School: -£28,707 (4%)
- ☒ Arnold Mill Primary: -£22,522 (2%)
- ☒ Mapperley Plains Primary: -£75,080 (7%)
- ☒ Westdale Lane Junior School: -£48,345 (6%)
- ☒ Westdale Lane Infant School: -£83,185 (12%)
- ☒ The Carlton Academy: - £451,499 (12%)

If you have a question you would like to be submitted to the panel please email it to robertillingworth@hotmail.com who will pass them onto the chair of the debate, who will decide an order of questions. We will try to cover as many as time allow.

Education: The Big Debate!

Notts NUT hosted "Education: The Big Debate" in Arnold on Tuesday, November 22. Our National Executive member and local teacher, Rob Illingworth, spoke alongside Alan Gibbons, the well known children's author, local councillors and a headteacher.

Questions were raised about about SATs, funding, grammar schools and other issues. The audience included a widespread of ages and political views, with a minority appearing to blame teachers for the crisis in education.

However, the vast majority of those present supported the view that our children are over-tested at the expense of creativity in education. The biggest applause of the evening followed

contributions by two students from a local school who spoke about the importance of friendship in schools and the student interactions which generate real learning as opposed to the learn by rote test method.



Our 'Stop the Cuts' stall in Arnold on November 19