

Support Teachers!

As a group we have agreed to support the strike action by teachers tomorrow 17th October. Several members have given flyers to parents, pupils and staff explaining the reasons for the strike and for our support of it at:

Severn View, Callowell and Stroud Valley primary schools

Stroud High, Marling and Archway secondary schools

Our friends in Cheltenham and Gloucester Against Cuts have been flyering in their patches too.

We would welcome help visiting pickets to communicate support from SATC tomorrow, and help distributing leaflets. Please see the attached leaflet (or pass on to friends, family, neighbours and colleagues). You might also like to share [this film](#) and, if you can, [this tweet](#) .

If you are a parent, please consider visiting pickets and passing on our leaflet to other parents.

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# WHY TEACHERS ARE TAKING STRIKE ACTION

Members of the NUT and the NASUWT teacher unions, who together represent 9 out of 10 teachers, are both in dispute with the Government.

These disputes cover:

- Excessive workload and bureaucracy;
- Cuts and other changes to teachers' pay;
- Adverse changes to their pensions;
- Job cuts.

Teachers are deeply concerned about the impact these imposed changes are having on the morale of the teaching profession, the recruitment and retention of teachers and on the provision of quality education for pupils.

Members of the NUT and the NASUWT teacher unions have been engaged in jointly co-ordinated industrial action short of strike.

This action by our members has been designed to enable teachers to focus on the job of teaching and to prevent a crisis in the teaching profession which could have devastating consequences for our schools.

However, the Secretary of State for Education is continuing to make changes to teachers' pay, pensions and conditions of service that are not supported by teachers and are making it much harder for schools to recruit and retain good teachers.

The Secretary of State for Education is refusing to engage in genuine talks with the NUT and the NASUWT about teachers' concerns, despite numerous requests by both unions.

Teachers deeply regret the disruption caused by strike action. However, the Government's refusal to engage to resolve the dispute means that they have no alternative other than to demonstrate to the Government the seriousness of their concerns.

The NUT and the NASUWT are asking the Government to enter into genuine talks to resolve this dispute.

For more information on this and other campaigns against cuts, privatisation and attacks on workers see: [www.stroudagainstcuts.co.uk](http://www.stroudagainstcuts.co.uk) and [www.twitter.com/stroudaincuts](http://www.twitter.com/stroudaincuts) or call: 07583 497887.

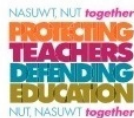
Across the country our education system is being undermined. The Government is:

- No longer requiring schools to employ qualified teachers.
- Rushing through a new curriculum, without resources and against the advice of many teachers; and introducing expensive and unnecessary new tests for 5 and 11 year olds.
- Reducing young people's opportunities by trebling tuition fees and abolishing the EMA; and wasting the Olympic legacy by undermining sport in schools.
- Creating chaos for parents by allowing neighbouring schools to have different term dates and school holidays.
- Building free schools for secondary age children in places where they are not needed instead of primary schools which are needed and paving the way for private companies to make a profit from running our schools.
- Causing chaos in teachers' pay and pensions; and making teaching a less attractive prospect for young people.

This is not a recipe for high quality publicly funded education to help every child do the very best they can.



[www.nasuwt.org.uk](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk)



[www.teachers.org.uk](http://www.teachers.org.uk)

Stroud Against the Cuts supports teachers and supports this strike!

**Why should you support this strike?** If management can get away with cutting pay or worsening conditions for one group of workers, it'll only embolden them to do it to others. While good wages and good jobs in one industry or workplace put upward pressure on wages and conditions in other sectors and industries, bad wages and conditions become an excuse to attack the living standards of all workers. When we stand up for ourselves and one another, we make attacks on any worker or group of workers less likely - regardless of what union we belong to or if we don't belong to a union at all. This dispute has reached a point where people feel their only option is to withdraw their labour - a decision that is not taken lightly.

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<http://www.stroudagaincuts.co.uk> is from the Cleverest of Clever. The unions will be in a position to support any strike that will have been struck by the end of the day. See <http://www.stroudagaincuts.co.uk> for more information.

