



## **VALUED WORKERS SCHEME LAUNCHED FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

Schools and colleges who are committed to valuing their staff are being encouraged to sign up to a new scheme which aims to improve the wellbeing of the education workforce.

The **NASUWT-The Teachers' Union**, is launching at its Annual Conference in Birmingham the Valued Workers Scheme which is supported by GMB, Unison and Unite to recognise and support good employment relations in schools and colleges.

The scheme aims to recognise those employers that are committed to valuing their staff and treating them fairly, equitably and consistently.

By adopting the six Valued Worker Scheme principles, employers can demonstrate their commitment to their employees' wellbeing.

Employers signing up to the scheme will be asked to outline their workforce priorities for the year ahead and will have access to information and support aimed at deepening employers' understanding of the principles and sharing good practice.

**Chris Keates, General Secretary of the NASUWT**, said:

“We know that there are many employers who are committed to providing improved working conditions for their employees and this scheme aims to recognise them, support them to continue to improve workforce relations and promote their good practice to other schools and colleges.

“Employers that value and respect their staff benefit from increased productivity, increased employee morale and lower staff turnover rates.

“Valuing the workforce is a win/win for everyone.”

**Jon Richards, Unison National Secretary, Education and Children's Services,** said:

“Despite being half the school workforce, support staff are often overlooked. This scheme gives the chance for employers to show that they value and respect all staff working for them.

“Successful schools treat staff as one team and encourage a healthy and safe working environment. They also realise that continuing professional development is necessary for all staff for them to provide the quality education that our children and young people deserve.

“The six principles incorporate the values that all schools should be happy to sign up to for all their staff.”

**Gail Cartmail, Unite Assistant General Secretary for public services** said:

“For too many years, those working in schools and colleges have borne the brunt of the government's austerity regime.

“So any scheme that recognises the dedication of this hardworking workforce and cements good employment relations has Unite's full support - and we urge employers to sign up to this with enthusiasm.”

# NASUWT

## The Teachers' Union

