

VIOLENCE AT WORK (VAW) INCIDENTS INCREASING

The Wirral Local Authority Health and Safety Team have received guidance from the DfE about the reporting of accident statistics to the L.A. The DfE say:

"There is no requirement for schools to inform the local authority of accidents that happen on school premises. However, certain work-related injuries to a member of staff or a child must, by law, be recorded and reported to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). The employer is responsible for this, but staff may be asked to prepare the report."



The L.A. H&S Team have reported to us that the number of incidents of VAW in primary schools continues to rise. Particularly numbers of incidents of violence from a particular pupil directed at their one-to-one support in primary schools. The number and severity of incidents in special schools are also increasing.

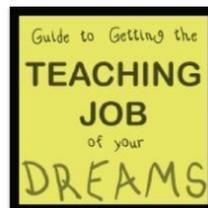
The Health and Safety Team provide a great service in providing support and advice and, if necessary, investigating all serious accidents and incidents to schools that buyback the L.A. H&S SLA, the Service Level Agreement, but some schools do not purchase their H&S services from the L.A. in order to save money we assume.

However, if these Wirral schools are not recording and reporting accidents and VAW incidents to the L.A. H&S Team or directly to the Health and Safety Executive they are doing their staff a grave disservice. If any member thinks this is the case in their school they should contact the union immediately for advice about reporting accidents/incidents themselves directly to the HSE.

NATIONAL TEACHER VACANCIES WEBSITE

The Department for Education has just announced that it is to launch a new national website to advertise teacher vacancies.

There are some merits in the development of this website, particularly in terms of the potential savings in advertising costs for schools. However, the launch of this service does nothing to address either the reasons for the national teacher recruitment and retention crisis which is driving schools to spend more and more time and resources advertising for an ever diminishing number of teachers or to stop the exploitation of supply teachers.



The NASUWT has raised consistently with the DfE the need to cap scandalously high finders fees. We have also raised time and again the need to ensure supply teachers are receiving fair and appropriate pay and conditions. The DfE site also has the potential to drive further exploitation of supply teachers as there is nothing to prevent some agencies cutting supply teacher pay so their margins appear good on the website but they still retain their commission.

Nothing will really change until the DfE accepts the need for regulation of supply agencies to ensure that teachers and schools are getting a fair deal.

THE FREE FOR ALL SQUANDERING PUBLIC MONEY!

The 'Free For All? Analysing free schools in England, 2018', Report from NFER and the Sutton Trust, was published at the end of May. This report simply confirms the view of the NASUWT that there is no evidence that structural changes raise standards of education.

The introduction of free schools and academies not only caused great turbulence, anxiety and uncertainty for all involved, but also saw millions of pounds of public money squandered.

Our children and local communities deserve much better.



TUC 150 YEARS OLD

In May, the Trade Union Congress (TUC) celebrated its 150th anniversary and with it, a century and a half of working together to change the world of work for good.

It all started with a simple question. Samuel Caldwell Nicholson, a typesetter and union officer living in Manchester asked: "Why not have a congress of our own?" And so the trade union movement came together in Manchester, resolved to work as one, and the rest is history.

The anniversary is an opportunity to celebrate the role of trade unions, to commemorate its history, and most importantly to position it as a modern, confident, movement with a role of central importance and legitimacy in today's workplace and economy.

WHAT IS THE TUC?

The TUC is a joining together of separate trade unions. The TUC exists to make the working world a better place for everyone. It brings together more than 5.5 million working people who make up its 49 member unions. It holds a Congress every year to which member trade unions send delegates to debate motions which will form TUC policy for the future, much like our own union does. It employs a permanent staff based at Congress House in Central London.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - MAY/JUNE 2018

Wirral NASUWT School Rep Training Day

Our annual training day will take place on Thursday 12th July at The Leasowe Castle Hotel. School Reps are entitled to time off to attend this important training event. I am concerned that a number of schools do not have a Rep and I will be writing to these schools to ask that an NASUWT member be allowed to attend. Keeping in touch with the Local Association is important even if there are no issues in your school. With education budgets as they are many schools in Wirral will be vulnerable to restructures over the next few years and knowing who to contact and get advice in a hurry is much easier if you are aware of the systems within Union organisation prior to needing them. We are also able to offer free CPD on many issues ranging from Creativity in the Classroom to specific courses for middle and senior leaders. During this year's training day we will sampling the North West Regional Centre's new "Well Being Roadshow". This is a free event that can be brought to schools to assist in supporting all



Anne Rycroft
Wirral Secretary

school staff. Wirral Officers will be briefed on the event so that we can offer this to local schools. The offer will of course be limited in availability so attending the training event will help to secure a booking at your school. Please contact me if you are a Rep-less school and would like to attend.

National Conference 2019

In the last newsletter I reported on Conference 2018 and no sooner had that been done than we have to start planning for 2019! Conference 2019 will be over the Easter weekend in Belfast. As this will bring challenges to the organisation the nominations process will be starting early and you will soon be receiving details direct from Headquarters. If you are interested but would like to know more about what happens and what to expect please get in touch. It would be great to take a full delegation to Belfast.



Incidents involving the Police

During this year there have been a small number of incidents in schools that have required Police involvement. It is vital that all NASUWT members are aware of what to do should they be involved in any investigation of this nature. Without exception members should call the advice line (or out of hours number) immediately to secure support before giving any statement. The NASUWT website has specific guidance on this: <https://www.nasuwt.org.uk/contact-us/legal-support/crime-emergency-procedure.html>

Are your Membership Details Correct?

As we approach the summer holidays please find time to log on to the NASUWT website and check your details. It is important that we have your correct contact details and school. When cases come through to us this is the information we use to contact you, you might need us one day so keep it updated!

After all that GDPR stuff - An Easy Guide to Email Security

- X DO NOT** open any email attachments that end with .exe, .scr, .bat, .com, or other executable files you do not recognise.
- X DO NOT** "unsubscribe" from dodgy emails - it is easier to delete the email than to deal with the security risks.
- X DO NOT** ever click on embedded links in messages without hovering your mouse over them first to check the validity of the URL.
- X DO NOT** respond or reply to spam in any way. Use the delete button.
- ✓ ALWAYS** check the email 'From' field to validate the sender. The 'From' address may be spoofed.
- ✓ ALWAYS** check for so-called 'double-extended' scam attachments. A text file named 'safe.txt' is safe, but a file called 'safe.txt.exe' is not.
- ✓ ALWAYS** report all suspicious emails to your Information Technology help desk.
- ✓ ALWAYS** note that www.microsoft.software.com and (...wait for it!) www.support.microsoft.software.com are two different domains - and only the first one is real.



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SUMMER TERM GENERAL MEETING

A warm welcome awaits all members at the next meeting of the Wirral NASUWT - The Teachers' Union

On Tuesday 13th June 2018
At the Leasowe Castle Hotel
Leasowe Road, Moreton, CH46 3RF

4.00 p.m. Refreshments
Meeting 4.15-5.30 p.m.

Why not recruit a colleague on **FREE MEMBERSHIP** if they join on-line and bring them along with you?

NASUWT

The Teachers' Union

MEMBER SUPPORT ADVICE TEAM

The dedicated number for all members to access help and advice. Calls are free from all landlines and mobile phone networks:

03330 145550

Members can also e-mail to: advice@mail.nasuwt.org.uk

Wirral Association NASUWT LOCAL OFFICERS

If members need to call for local help and advice you can contact the Local Secretary or the Assistant Secretary on the following days:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday call Mick Robinson
07739 422 181
mickrobinson@nasuwt.net

Thursday & Friday call Anne Rycroft
07910 026695
annerycroft@gmail.co.uk

NASUWT
The Teachers' Union

If any member would like to contribute to the **Wirral Association NASUWT NEWSLETTER**, please contact Mick Robinson. Mob: 07739422181 or E-mail: mickrobinson@nasuwt.net
Previous recent issues of the **NEWSLETTER** can be viewed on our website.

Visit the Wirral NASUWT website
www.wirralassociationnasuwt.org