

# Reps school briefing notes



You've downloaded these notes so you can hold a school meeting and talk to your colleagues about the NEU campaign to save education. Calling colleagues together, walking them through things and outlining what they need to do to help you is one of the most important things you can do as a rep. What you are doing will have an impact.

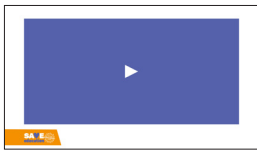
The presentation is straightforward to follow. It's important that you take time to listen to colleagues, they'll fully understand the issues in play. Your job is to link those issues to the NEU course of action, get colleagues to set a reminder in their calendars and pledge to vote.

We think you could squeeze this into a lunchtime meeting or 30 minutes at the end of the day – but allow time for conversation, especially if colleagues have taken part in previous strikes.



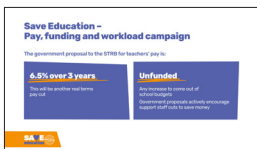
## Slide 1

Welcome slide – Save Education is the NEU multi year campaign to win on a number of teacher and support staff issues, with the goal of making education fairer, well funded and properly resourced.



## Slide 2

This slide contains a video message from Daniel Kebede, the NEU general secretary. This will play on an interactive whiteboard and requires an internet connection and sound.

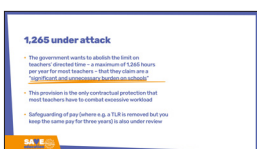


## Slide 3

Teacher Pay is determined by an 'independent' review body. Independent is in inverted commas because the government appoint the people on it as well as set their remit – what they are allowed to consider.

You may have heard the phrase STRB, this is the School Teacher Review Body. Bridget Phillipson, the Secretary of State for Education, has set the remit this year to not exceed 6.5 per cent spread over three years. This, even by government projections, would mean a pay cut.

This pay cut would also be unfunded – so the money would have to come from existing school budgets.



## Slide 4

To add insult to injury, the government has also tasked the STRB with looking at scrapping directed time. Commonly referred to as 1265, this is the only contractual protection you have on your working time.

With it gone, workload and the expectation to work longer hours in school will increase, and there would be no contractual backstop.

They also want to scrap the small pay protection you are entitled to should a restructure remove your TLR.

This is an unjust attack on your basic terms and conditions – and is an unnecessary provocation.

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## Slide 5

Support staff are in the same boat. Expectations are growing but pay is stagnant. The prospect of an unfunded teacher pay award means they are in the firing line – more often than not the first to face cuts to hours or redundancy.

**The STRB remit suggest looking at support staff ‘efficiencies’.**

**If you’re not angry about this, you should be.**



## Slide 6

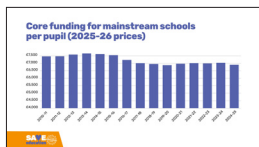
It wasn’t always like this – can anyone remember when things were better?

*You can allow some discussion if you have time*

As a profession we have stopped challenging these decisions and just accept that things will get progressively worse – this isn’t good enough for the profession or children.

**In the 2024 general election millions of people voted for change.**

**This isn’t the change people – educators, students or parents – want or need.**



## Slide 7

This shows how funding for mainstream schools has fallen since 2010: factor in rising costs and growing complexity and demand and the situation needs bold action.

**It isn’t just your school – it is a national crisis.**



## Slide 8

This is what we want and deserve. It isn’t our choice and doesn’t have to be. We didn’t work in education to manage decline. Now is the time to take a stand – we need to influence government in every way we can – through our campaigning and, if necessary, industrial action.

The NEU is pledging to Save Education. We need your support to do this.



## Slide 9

The NEU is holding an indicative ballot of our teacher and support staff members, starting on Saturday, 28 February. The indicative ballot will be held online – we need personal email addresses and mobile numbers to send voting links to.

A strong turnout in the ballot will send a strong message to government that we have had enough of empty promises and demand change. The ballot is timed to influence the STRB process – having maximum impact on the panel who decide whether to recommend a fully funded pay award.

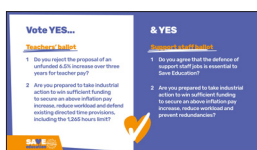
You’ll be asked two questions.

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This is our chance to send a robust message to the STRB and government, that we will not accept any unfunded pay rises, increase in workload and support staff redundancies.

It is really important that everyone votes as soon as the ballot opens, on 28 February.



## Slide 10

Each member will be sent an online ballot with two questions.

We recommend you to vote Yes to both.

Teachers and support staff will receive different ballots to reflect the nature of the dispute.



## Slide 11

Who can remember when we did it last time?

Did anyone go to a rally or picket?

We need to recreate that strength of feeling and action. The action the NEU led secured billions in additional funding – this has helped save jobs and conditions.

We are calling on you to do it again.



## Slide 12

Ends – remind people they have a job to do – to save education – and we do that by acting together, voting to save education and talking to colleagues across school, MAT and LA about the campaign.