



YOUR UNION IN  
SCHOOLS

# SCHOOL WORKFORCE NEWS

Issue 22 of the new series

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...nursery nurses, classroom assistants, secretaries, bursars, school meals staff, TAs, learning support practitioners, sitekeepers, learning mentors, cover supervisors, administrators, cleaners, librarians, midday supervisors, personal care assistants, technicians, HLTAs, School Business Managers.....**GMB, your union in schools**

## YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU

In the last edition of School Workforce News we told you that GMB has launched a national campaign to protect Teaching Assistants from Michael Gove's plans to scrap the entire profession. This issue includes the first action of the campaign:

### **A national petition for you to use in your school.**

The threat to teaching assistants' jobs concerns everyone – all staff, parents and the wider community. Please therefore ask everyone in your workplace to sign, including the teachers and the Headteacher, and then make sure parents have a chance to sign too, this will enable us to show the government the strength and breadth of support for TAs and the work they do.

Your GMB region will collect the responses and are planning campaign events to make sure the support for TAs is heard loud and clear by decision makers.

With the summer holidays approaching fast, it's crucial we get started collecting signatures quickly, so please don't delay. We will use the summer break to get our message out in the wider communities, and plan for the next stages of the campaign. The more signatures we have the stronger our message will be, and when schools reconvene in the autumn we'll be back gathering support for the campaign.

This campaign is crucial. Teaching Assistants are the largest occupational group in the schools support staff workforce, and are a vital, integral part of our education system.

**Michael Gove has no respect for the work Teaching Assistants do**, and a swath of unsubstantiated evidence was cited which to put it bluntly led to the assumption being drawn that Teaching Assistants are a waste of money!!!

GMB will stand up to defend both Teaching Assistants professionalism and their jobs. I said in a speech to GMB congress, that the ***best way we can challenge and respond to these scurrilous attacks is to organize. Please ask everyone who is part of the school community, e.g: Head teacher, teachers, governors and parents to sign this petition and return to the freepost address at the foot of the petition.***

***Together we can make Gove see sense!***

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Join GMB online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)

### **SAY YES TO SECURITY AT WORK**

As a GMB member you are much more **secure** at work because you are part of an **effective** union of 700,000 members. Whether you work full-time or part-time — whatever job you do — GMB can **help** you.

