

To: Secretaries of Local Government branches with members in education,
Education Convenors (England)

Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland for information only

education@unison.co.uk

ED/16/13

12 September 2013

Dear Colleague

NUT and NASUWT Industrial Action

Further to circular ED/10/13, the NUT and NASUWT have announced further dates of regional strike action as part of their campaign against government proposals on teacher's pay.

They are intending to take action in the Eastern, East Midlands, West Midlands and Yorkshire and Humberside regions on 1 October and in the Northern, Greater London, South East and South West regions on 17 October.

Please note that their regional structure does not precisely match UNISON structures, so for details of which local authority areas will be affected on which dates, please check the NUT website.

<http://www.teachers.org.uk/>

Announcements on further dates of action in the autumn term are expected and we will update branches with details.

UNISON Advice

UNISON respects the rights of other trade unions to take industrial action. UNISON members in schools have not been balloted for strike action or action short of strike action and therefore they are advised to continue with their normal duties and responsibilities. However, UNISON members should not take on any additional responsibilities being given to them directly as a result of the teachers' industrial action.

School support staff should not be expected to provide cover for or take classes, where this would normally be done by teachers who are taking action. In particular, Higher Level Teaching Assistants or cover supervisors should only be taking classes or providing cover where they are contracted to do so, it is timetabled or part of their normal duties. Staff should not be moved from the duties they would normally have carried out in order to cover classes and frustrate the industrial action of colleagues.

Members who are under pressure to cover should contact their UNISON rep, branch or region for further advice and support.

Members are reminded that due to industrial relations legislation only those employees who have been involved in a legal ballot are allowed to take industrial action.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Richards". The letter "J" is large and stylized, with a long vertical stroke that curves slightly to the left at the top. The name "Richards" is written in a cursive style with a dot over the "i".

National Secretary
Education and Children's Services