



Autumn Action

The Government is limiting teachers' pay increases for 2008-2011 to levels which do not match the current rate of inflation. Teachers' pay increases have already been below inflation every year from 2005 onwards. This has meant real terms pay cuts – teachers on UPS3 have already lost £2000 and rising.

Year on year pay cuts mean

- Teachers and their families facing a downwards spiral in their income
- Younger teachers particularly facing accumulating debt
- Encouragement to “compete” with other teachers for performance related pay and inadequate TLRs.

Poor pay discourages young graduates to join the teaching profession this leads to

- Teacher shortages
- Increasing class sizes
- Lack of personal attention for pupils
- Increase in workload and working hours
- Unqualified people teaching whole classes

The Government has even refused to implement the trigger mechanism for a review of pay if inflation has risen above 3.25%.

The STRB said the review wasn't necessary as there was no shortage of teachers!

The National Executive met on September 5 2008 to consider a ballot for action this term. The agreement to ballot was unanimous.

What can you do?

- *Arrange a meeting in your school to discuss the issues.*
- *Talk to Parents*
- *Contribute to the debate.*

Make sure you vote YES in the ballot.

But in the meantime, get into campaigning mode.

Phone 01629 585086 if you need further information.