



# District Meeting

**Hackney District NEU**



## Fighting for an increase in education funding

**Andrew Baisley** Head of Research for the NEU will update us on the situation for schools after the government's refusal to increase education funding at the Autumn statement.

There will also be reports from schools



### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January @ 5pm

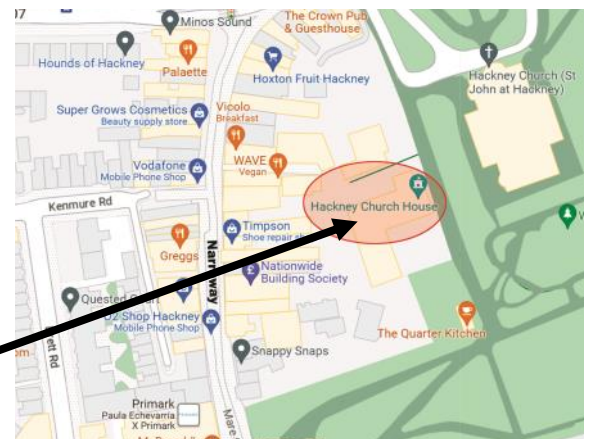
All education workers who are members of the NEU are welcome

### Hackney Church House

1 Lower Clapton Rd E8 1FX

(opp St John at Hackney Church, just off the narrowway between Santander and Vicolo down Dispensary Lane)

**Childcare expenses and cab fares for groups to the meeting will be paid**



#### Agenda

1. Request for Suspensions
2. Minutes from previous General Meeting and matters arising (10 minutes)
3. Fixed business (see above)
4. Secretary's and Officers' report;
5. Prioritisation of Conference motions
6. Motions
7. AOB

**Snacks will be provided**

**If you need zoom access please email [carole.buxton@neu.org.uk](mailto:carole.buxton@neu.org.uk)**

**Hackney NEU** phone 0208985 2056

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Hackney NEU

Request for suspensions

Minutes and matters arising: minutes agreed. No matters arising.

Disability History Month: key points

Speakers: Richard Rieser (apologies from Lucy Mason, who has had transport problems)

DHM was set up following coalition victory 2010. Positive developments have been rolled back

What do young Disabled young people want? see UKDHM broadsheet.

These not implemented well in schools: pressure, funding, exams etc. So not enough inclusion. Importance of social model of disability, not deficit model.

Richard gave account of history of disability.

Eugenics – led to more exclusion from mainstream and defined as ‘ineducable’. IQ. Burt.

Government policy – less inclusion: 2.6 billion for new special schools. Also, free schools being set up

Far too many children not in inclusive education, too many exclusions

Hackney: huge amounts of money wasted putting children in expensive private institutions. Should use to set up more inclusive units etc – falling rolls issue gives space

Proposal: encourage schools/members to make sure they do explicit teaching around issue – example of Jekyll and Hyde and Of Mice and Men. Look at language. SNS: current focus on CPD on SEND/Disability – looked at ECHPs. Spread to schools. <https://ukdhm.org>

### **Motion on Disability history month passed unanimously.**

Nora from Educational Psychologist: AEPs. Strike action plus action short of strike (9-5) for 6 weeks. Next strike day: 13th Dec – picket Hackney town hall. 17% pay cut, harder for longer – doubling of EHCPs in the last five years. Eps going into private sector; students missing out.

### **Motion on Psychologists: passed unanimously.**

#### **Secretary's report:**

Schools Forum: looking at budgets and different blocks. Facility time agreed! Funding in Hackney under serious threat – going up by 1% despite pay rises etc 9% cuts per student: see [schoolcuts.org.uk](http://schoolcuts.org.uk). Plus falling rolls: 600 spare reception places. Lobby council 11th December. We have put in a submission: includes 800 students who are exported and we pay eg Leaways. Want feasibility study. Query re. land/buildings – commitment to not sell off buildings.

Relaunch campaign around funding: rally on Wednesday in Emmanuel Centre on day of autumn statement. Parents planning meeting today.

Committee nominations: Ewan Hawkins (Skinners) nominated and seconded. Elected unanimously

#### **Conference motions agreed on:**

SEND in crisis, New Professionals; Value Early Years; Workplace representatives; Policing our students; Abolish Education Health Standards regulations. Passed unanimously.

#### **Motion on Strike Map: passed unanimously.**

AOB: Care4Calais – please donate; please support HSUT Care4Calais event.

AOB: lobby council on 28th Nov re disinvesting from arms investments.

AOB: NEU has given £50,000 to Save the Children for Gaza. Re. student walkouts: strong advice – educators should not organise (danger of disciplinary) but can approach Heads.

Text of motions

### **Support Psychologists Strike Action**

#### **Hackney NEU notes**

1. School Psychologists, like others in public service are experiencing a severe attack on their living standards
2. Our students continue to experience significant and increasing issues with mental health

#### **Hackney NEU agrees to:**

1. Express our solidarity over their strike action
2. Support the picket on 13<sup>th</sup> December in Hackney
3. Donate £100 to their strike fund

Proposer: Jane Bassett

Seconder Inbar Tamari

### **Motion to support Strike Map**

#### **Hackney NEU Notes:**

- The fantastic work of Strike Map in sharing information and building solidarity across the trade union movement for workers who are taking industrial action.
- Over the last two years Strike Map has mapped over 230,000 individual workplaces that have taken action, attracted 350,000 users and 2 million page views. Strike Map has also signed up over 3,500 people to visit pickets- allowing supporters to send messages of solidarity to workers taking action and to attend picket lines to show solidarity in person.
- Aware that Strike Map is volunteer run and relies on donations from both organisations and individuals in order to update and maintain the website.
- Union branches have an annual fee of £20 a year.

#### **Hackney NEU Agrees to**

- Affiliate with strike map and pay the annual fee.
- Donate £200 to Strike Map.
- Commits to use strike map to promote local action.

Proposer: Carly Slingsby

Secunder: Dave Davies

#### **Motion to support Disability History Month**

Hackney NEU supports UK Disability History Month 16th November to 16th December and urges our members to engage in activities around the theme Disability Childhood and Youth with colleagues and with pupils/students. We agree to buy 100 Broadsheets and distribute them and donate £100 to UKDHM"

Proposed Richard Rieser

Secunder Susie Burrows

#### **MOTIONS FOR GM 15.01.24**

#### **Cuba Solidarity Campaign - affiliation motion**

##### **Hackney NEU notes that**

2024 marks the 62nd anniversary of the US's illegal blockade of Cuba despite 29 UN General Assembly majority votes calling for its termination.

The US enforces this blockade even to trade from countries that do not support it

The blockade causes shortages across all sectors in Cuba, including education and health.

During the COVID-19 pandemic the blockade added to the suffering and loss of life on the island by preventing purchase and delivery of vital equipment and medicines to treat patients and the roll out Cuba's vaccination programme.

In 2021, Oxfam reported that, during the pandemic, the US blockade slowed the use of new technologies - like zoom or teams - for teaching and forced Cuba to resort to broadcasting daily classes to 1.7 million students on television.

NEU members who have participated in delegations to Cuba all agree that the blockade is the fundamental hindrance to educational development in Cuba and results in noticeable shortages in Cuban classrooms.

##### **Hackney NEU welcomes:**

The £100,000 raised for the 'Viva La Educación' appeal which sent two containers of education aid to Cuban schools in 2023.

##### **Hackney NEU agrees**

To support the call for an end to the US blockade.

To affiliate to the Cuba Solidarity Campaign at an annual cost of £40

To make a donation to the CSC of £100

