



Dear Colleagues,

JUNE UPDATE

Congratulations on making it to the end of another academic year. We are well aware that, despite the on-going industrial action, teaching remains difficult and demanding so we trust that you will enjoy a well-earned rest over the coming weeks.

The following highlights some of the key issues facing us at the moment. We hope that this short update will serve to answer some key questions and allow you then to relax during the summer.

PAY NEGOTIATIONS

You will have received the joint statement from teaching unions and management side regarding the position we have reached. We await confirmation of funding being secured before we move forward.

When such confirmation is received, hopefully by the Autumn term, we will be holding a series of meetings at different locations to clarify the detail of the proposed agreement. Such information will also be provided through a range of media to ensure members have all questions answered. We will then be balloting members regarding the way forward. Please be assured that you will be fully involved at all stages of the process.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Industrial action will continue in its current form pending the resolution of the dispute. You should therefore continue the action as stands on your return to school following the summer break. You will be kept fully informed of any changes to this position.

ANTI-BULLYING LEGISLATION

It has been agreed by all teaching unions that there will be no changes to the monitoring and recording of bullying incidents in school until consultation has taken place with the employers. Members should therefore, in the Autumn term, continue to record such incidents using the format already in place in your school. A statement regarding the NITC position is available on the UTU website. (You can view this statement by [clicking here](#))

INCREMENTAL PAY

Principals have received the guidance and paperwork related to movement up the pay scale for the academic year 2019/20. Any member continuing to progress up the pay scale should approach his/her Principal if there are any concerns or contact UTU on 028 90662216. This is particularly important if you are ready to progress through threshold. All relevant documentation must be completed by the beginning of October.

TIME BUDGETS

We are aware that there has been much discussion in schools around time budgets and the role that they play in relation to your hours of work. Time budgets have been active in schools for some time but there remain outstanding questions around their format, how they are constructed and how they apply to you as a teacher. We will be posting further guidance on the website in coming days to provide clarity around the key issues. You can, of course, seek information directly from UTU HQ.

SEN

Due to the continuing absence of an Assembly there have been significant delays regarding the Regulations and the Code of Practice. This has therefore impacted on the implementation process previously suggested for schools. We are seeking clarification and will keep you informed of any changes or action required.

Once again, have a relaxing and enjoyable break. You deserve it!

Kind regards

J. E. White