GMB@SCHOOL

GMB NEWSLETTER FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

Summer 2008

GMB

PROTECTING YOU AT WORK

DON'TYOU DESERVEMORE?

The Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families has said—
"Teaching Assistants and support staff are transforming what happens in classrooms and helping teachers to focus on doing their best for every child." This shows that after relentless campaigning by GMB on behalf of our members in education the government has finally recognised that you are a vital, integral part of our children's education. Schools would now find it very difficult if not impossible to operate without you.

As far as GMB are concerned this means that, like the teachers, you should have your own negotiating body separate from other council workers, so that your skills, interests and needs can be better taken into account

Fairness not favours

GMB were optimistic that Job Evaluation under Single Status was going to put an end once and for all to support staff being undervalued and treated like a 'mum's army' doing their local schools a favour by turning up and helping out and being rewarded with what is left from the petty cash tin as a favour in return. Whilst in some Local Authorities, after much hard work by GMB, Job Evaluation has delivered increases in pay and status for our members unfortunately it has failed to deliver in many others.

National Local Government negotiations on pay and conditions have not recognised your unique situation and on many occasions it has seemed that school support staff have been an afterthought to the employer despite relentless GMB campaigning.

Rate for the job

Today we still see job descriptions that carry virtually identical duties and responsibilities, requiring the same skills, knowledge, qualifications and/or experience, being evaluated and one coming out being worth £4,000 pounds a year more than the other simply because one was evaluated by Cambridge County Council and the other by Lancashire County Council.

In schools we see "Term Time Only" pay calculations meaning anything between 38 and 44 weeks a year paid work, depending where you work.



"Part Time" pay pro-rotas range from 35 to 37 hours a week again depending on where you work. These inconsistent practices not only reduce your take home pay each month but will also have a detrimental effect on your pension.

Have your say on pay

GMB are at the forefront of all negotiations in regard to setting up a National Body for school support staff to try to resolve this unfairness once and for all. We will ensure that GMB members are fully consulted on final proposals as and when they are available.

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk

If you want to organise a meeting at your schools with GMB or to make sure your school receives our regular newsletter, call Paul Wade on 01924 882 255, If you or any of your colleagues working in schools are not members, you can join using the form on the back of the newsletter.

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 600,000 members. Whether you work full-time or part-time—whatever job you do— GMB can **help** you.



WHAT DO I PAY?

GMB keeps membership costs as low as possible. 10 hrs and less 70p a week (3.04) per month, 11 hours and above £1.28 per week (£5.55) per month, if you work full time £2.40 per week (£10.40) per month. The union offers a range of benefits based on what you pay.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk/join, or fill in parts 1, 2 and 3 or 4 of the form below and hand it to your local GMB representative or post it to FREEPOST RRRS-KSGH-REKT, GMB, Cavendish House, 369 Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware HA8 5AW (you do not need a stamp). If you have any questions contact GMB: email info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website www.gmb.org.uk

FOR UNION USE ONLY	Section	Branch No	Members	rship No Date of joining
GMB membership application form Please USE BLOCK CAPITALS				
1 TELL US A	BOUT YOU			
Surname		First r	name	Title Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of birth
Home address			Home Tel	Email
444.000	Postco	de	Mobile	I agree to abide by GMB rules Signature
Date	We ask for your ethnic o Bangladeshi / Black A	rigins as part of our equa frican_/Black Caribbea	□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □	f improving services to all members / Chinese / Indian / Irish / Pakistani / White / Other:
2 TELL US A	BOUT YOUR JOB			
Employer				Your job
Address				How many hours a week do you work?
where you work		Postcode		Work Tel Pay Date
Section 68, Trade Union a I authorise my employe	and Labour Relations (Consolidated) are to deduct from my pay each week any be fixed by the GMB from time to	Act 1992 as amended /month the sum of	Please start tI note that th	t the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to the GMB. this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing. ission to my employer to notify the GMB of any future change of address.
Please fill in the form an	d send to GMB , 22—24 Worple Ro	ad, London SW19 4DD	ING SOCIETY	TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT Originator's Identification Number 9 7 4 3 3 0
To the Manager of Address	lress of your Bank or Building Soci		nk/Building Society	For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.
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Name(s) of account hold Bank/Building Society Ac Bank/Building Society So Reference number (Office	count Number			Instructions to your Bank or Building Society. Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society. Signature(s) Date Banks or Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account