



UPDATE - JANUARY 2017

Our Ref: 139/589

Dear Colleague,

SALARIES

The UTU action (based on our ballot) which was notified to all members which involves teachers boycotting any activity involving the ETI commenced on 12th January. Any school which has been notified of an ETI visit should inform UTU Headquarters and we will ensure you are given support where necessary.

We held an exploratory meeting with Management Side on Thursday after which the following joint statement was released:

***JOINT STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF TNC MANAGEMENT SIDE AND NITC TEACHER UNION SIDE
Management Side and Teaching Union Side held a constructive meeting today to discuss ongoing industrial action and agreed to exchange discussion papers and to meet again on 24th January 2017.***

The Central Executive Committee of UTU met on Friday and decided as a gesture of goodwill that we would not increase our action at present. Please note, therefore, that the additional proposed action listed in our update in December (PRSD, Nursery, etc.) will be postponed and will be reviewed at the next meeting in February. For a full list of ongoing UTU Industrial Action see the UTU website.

INVESTING IN THE TEACHING WORKFORCE

Teachers who indicated an interest in this scheme will by now have been contacted asking them if they wish to go ahead. Please note that confirming your acceptance will mean your school will move on to the next stage of the process. DE has told us that they will then confirm their offers to teachers who have been successful by 10th March 2017.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

This year's joint UTU/INTO Leadership Conference is to be held on 25th January 2017 in the Tullylagan Hotel, Cookstown. Places are limited so if you are interested in attending contact Headquarters to book a place. We intend to give an update on Industrial Action and Salary Negotiations on the day which may be of particular interest to those in Leadership roles, so make sure your Principal knows about it. We are accepting applications to attend from those who are not members of UTU or INTO but there will be a charge for them. Full details can be found on the UTU website.

FIT CONFERENCE

The Future In Teaching Group, whose members consist of recently qualified teachers, has organised a residential conference in Belfast at the end of January. If there are any recently qualified teachers in your school, or indeed, if you yourself qualified in recent years, check our website for details of how to register for this fully-funded overnight event.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The UTU Annual Conference will take place once again in the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle on the 24th -26th March. We are still accepting delegates so if you would be interested in attending to participate in some lively debate then contact your local Branch Secretary (details in your UTU diary).

SCHOOL VISITS

Please do not hesitate in contacting us if you would like a visit. The President and all our Officials are available to come and talk to the staff in your school about any matter of concern. Just phone or email us and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

The INTO will be taking strike action on 18th January and we would ask that you adhere to the normal practice of not covering work that is left undone by an INTO member. We are working as closely as possible with all the other unions to get the best possible outcome so please do not undermine the action of others!

Yours sincerely

Avril Hall-Callaghan
General Secretary