

## NEU National Officer Elections

### Nominate Phil Clarke for NEU Vice President

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to ask that you nominate Phil Clarke from your District in the upcoming Vice-President election of the National Education Union.



**Phil is standing because he is absolutely committed to fighting for the best for members and our students.** Phil firmly believes that if we are to improve our members' pay and working conditions as well as make progress against the scourges of child poverty, a narrowing curriculum, and cuts, we must both organise our members to stand up collectively as professionals and build alliances with parents and communities. Crucially we also believe he has shown this can be done in practice and achieve results.

He is an experienced serving teacher and have built the strength of the union in our local area, allowing us to **win significant victories for members.**

Campaigns he has been central to have resulted in thousands of teachers winning a pay increase, SEND services being kept open and many schools, including his own, staying as part of our local authority family.

As a member of the NEU national executive, he has been elected chair of the national Bargaining and Negotiation committee. This committee covers key issues for our members including pay and workload and gives him experience of key national roles such as taking part in pay negotiations. He is currently running national project looking at the gender pay gap in schools, targeting the lack of TLRs and pay progression issues among our primary members. He also chairs the supply members organising forum, working with members who face some of the biggest challenges to organising in the union.

It is his experience of winning for members we would like to see him take into the position of Vice-President. We know he will support others, particularly in rural conservative voting areas like ours, in building branches and networks of reps that can win for members.

His District and Branch secretary roles mean he has a huge amount of experience supporting teacher and support staff members both individually and collectively. We know how vital our local officers are in making sure we have a strong union presence in schools that can support and grow networks of reps. Working with branch and district officers to make sure they are supported with this work, which is the bedrock of the union, is a high priority for him.

Our equalities work is some of the best in movement but our LGBT, Black, disabled and women members face ever increasing hostility from the normalisation of right-wing political discourse and Phil recognises we must build on this work to implement both practical measures to ensure representation and instil solidarity across the membership.

We have seen his vision for the union is one where strength at workplace level means strength at national level. The NEU's impact during the pandemic showed us how we can build this strength by combining strong leadership from the top with an organising approach at the base. This is the work he wants to pick up and build on as Vice-President.

We believe he has the skills, commitment and experience of delivering for members that we hope you would like to see in a Vice-President. Empowering our members to stand up for themselves and our students is what our union is all about and this is what we know he will make central to his work as union Vice-President.

In solidarity,

Lewes, Eastbourne and Wealden District Committee Members

## **About Phil**

Computer Science Teacher in a comprehensive school for over 15 years

Lewes, Eastbourne and Wealden NUT Association/NEU District secretary for over 13 years and East Sussex Joint Branch Secretary.

Highly experienced caseworker.

NUT and then NEU national Executive member since 2014.

Chair of National Bargaining and Negotiations Committee.

Chair of the Supply teacher organising forum, many time conference delegate, regional council delegate

For many years secretary of his local Trade Union Council and organiser of his local anti-cuts campaign.

Significant media experience including in newspapers, radio, local and national TV.

## **Winning for members**

Organised members to take industrial action that overturned a Tory council and local academies failing to implement the full teachers' pay rise across East Sussex winning a pay rise for thousands of members.

Built campaigns alongside parents that have fought off a significant number of academy conversions in East Sussex. Prevented the closure of the LEA Music Service and our English as an Additional Language service through joint union and community campaigns.

Won recognition through industrial action across academy trusts who had been refusing to sign agreements for many years and gained recognition in local independent schools.

Supported very large numbers of Primary reps in submitting section 44 letters in January against reckless school opening.

Run and won many disputes over cuts, member redundancies, mock OFSTEDs and unreasonable workload. Most recently securing a victory in a rural secondary school at the end of last term that meant Dance and Drama remained on the curriculum and members kept their jobs.

## **Priorities as Vice-President**

Smash the pay freeze and win on workload. I commit to working with branches to build our levels of organisation in schools alongside a clear national campaign to win on these key issues.

A relentless focus on the quality of life and education for our students. Combatting child poverty, resisting the exam factory model and defending SEND provision must be central to our work.

Continue to make the case against and fight to stop privatisation and fragmentation of our education system. No area cannot be organised. Support for members, reps and branches working in difficult geographical areas and with hostile employers.

Spreading our international work further into the membership engaging a wider layer and in classrooms through teaching materials.

Using the expertise our members have across the union to help make the NEU the go to place for progressive pedagogy and CPD.

Build our organisation among support staff and look to work with our sister unions to create a united front for our most underpaid members. Continue to press the case for professional unity for all education workers.



# National Officer Elections 2021

## Nominate Emma Rose for Vice-President

### About me

- Secondary MFL teacher
- School rep for 8 years
- Warwickshire NEU District Secretary and Branch Assistant Secretary
- Elected member of the NEU National Executive Committee
- Elected member of the National Officer Steering Group
- NEC representative on the International Solidarity OF
- Experienced caseworker
- Organiser of successful local campaigns
- Regular contributor to and spokesperson for local media
- Represented the NEU at national rallies and sister union events



### My priorities as Vice-President

**My priority will be to work with Districts and Branches to organise and build the union in the workplace, to strengthen the NEU and put us in a position where we're able to win on:**

**Pay, terms and conditions** – beating the pay freeze for all education workers and winning on workload

**Curriculum and pedagogy** - leading the debate around appropriate, educator-led assessment for our pupils and ensure that our children have access to a broad, creative and properly balanced curriculum. Creating an education system that recognises and celebrates all our students' achievements.

**Fighting child poverty** - continuing to speak up for the children we teach and their families and ensure that every child thrives.

**SEND issues** - campaigning so that every child has access to the education they deserve

**Supply teachers** – working so that the exploitation of supply teachers is ended, and an alternative system created

**Support staff** – building organisation amongst our support staff members and continuing solidarity across the sectors

**Maintained Nursery Schools** – funding this vital sector properly, and valuing and protecting its unique educational approach

**Anti-academisation** – resisting the fragmentation of the education system and ensuring democratic, local control of our schools and colleges.

**Creating a more equal, just society** – embedding our equalities work in every workplace and ensuring that International Solidarity is a fundamental aspect of our work as educators.



# National Officer Elections 2021

## Nominate Emma Rose for Vice-President

Dear colleagues,

We are writing to you as members of Warwickshire NEU District and Branch committee to ask your district to nominate Emma Rose in the upcoming elections for NEU Vice-President.

As well as teaching MFL 4 days a week in a Warwick secondary school, Emma is our District Secretary and Branch Assistant Secretary.

Emma understands that the key to building a strong NEU is through members organising in the workplace. As school rep, she led the group to many victories on issues such as observations, cover during gained time, data-based PM targets and stopping a 'Mocksted' inspection, holding and winning both indicative and formal ballots when necessary.

As District Secretary, Emma has been involved in organising several high-profile campaigns, to further the cause of the union and build alliances locally. These have included: a Warwickshire SEND National Crisis event; campaigning on school funding and attending meetings to discuss the issue with the local MP and headteachers; organising a 'Stand Up For Education' Education Question Time, with over 200 attendees and campaigns to highlight the effects of, and tackle, child poverty.

Emma is committed to anti-racism and has organised and led many delegations to support the work of Care4Calais in Northern France. She also represented the NEU on the national round table on 'Racial Disparities in Exclusions in Schools and Colleges'.

In her Branch role, Emma is an experienced caseworker, supporting and advising members in a wide variety of different situations and seeking to collectivise issues wherever possible.

In 2019, Emma was elected to the NEU National Executive Committee, where she provides valuable insight as a serving classroom teacher both on the Policy, Research and Campaigns committee and within the executive meetings themselves. She has contributed regularly to the NEU response to Ofqual consultations on GCSE and A Level assessment and argued for changes to the current assessment system. She has also been elected to the National Officer Steering Group.

Emma has written motions for, and spoken several times at, national conference on issues of curriculum and pedagogy and believes that these, alongside organising to win better pay, terms and conditions, should be at the heart of our work as an education trade union.

Throughout the pandemic, Emma has regularly spoken at our sister unions' events, sharing our organising approach, and building solidarity throughout the trade union movement.

We believe that Emma has the skills and experience necessary to represent the NEU membership in this role and we therefore wholeheartedly recommend her nomination as NEU Vice-President.

With best wishes,

A Francis, A Rixon, A Summers, B Gladstone, J New, M Short, P Gillett, S O'Hara, T Lloyd

**Warwickshire NEU Committee members**

