Mark Time......

In the Leeds NASUWT office, we know just how much marking overload has affected teacher workload and consequently teacher health. Teachers regularly raise with us that they cannot sustain the mark load expectation of school management and dread the next book scrutiny as it will mean working into the early hours just to keep up.

We hear that evidence of Deep Marking is being stringently applied for appraisal purposes and then used as an excuse to refuse pay progression. We hear that the multi-use of coloured pens in marking is more commonplace, adding to both time and frustration and is cited as the last straw by many teachers as they exit the profession.

Clearly marking and meaningful feedback to children and young people is vital. It encourages them to continue and progress, whilst giving them a framework to judge their endeavours and measure their own progress. What we have in today’s classroom is marking that is onerous, over burdensome and not fit for purpose.

Schools Standards Minister Nick Gibb said:

“Teachers are spending too much time over-marking pupils' homework.”

He told MPs that marking in different-coloured pens, and giving feedback in exercise books, had never been a government or an Ofsted requirement. He told the Education Committee that the practice was adding to teachers’ workload - one of the top reasons given by teachers for leaving the profession.

The Department of Education set up an independent working group to look at reducing unnecessary workload through eliminating marking which is not:

“meaningful, manageable and motivating”

These are the 3 principles of effective marking. The report states that the recent growth of deep marking, which uses extensive written teacher comment is ineffective marking, as is writing VF in an exercise book to show that verbal feedback has been given. There is little or no robust evidence to show that this has a positive effect on pupil outcomes and the report proposes an approach based on professional
judgements. So if your marking load is not manageable then read this report and use the recommendations to argue your case.

This report was produced in March 2016. It can be found on: www.gov.uk and on Leeds Education Hub: www.leedseducationhub.sharepoint.com by searching for Eliminating Workload.

The NASUWT will support you in this and any other workload issues. Use our instruction to secure a more manageable marking workload.

NASUWT Action Instruction

Excessive workload and marking and assessment policies

Members are instructed to refuse to comply with any marking and assessment policy which generates excessive workload and/or has not been agreed with the NASUWT. Until such time as a policy agreed with the NASUWT is introduced, members will mark and assess pupils in a manner consistent with the principles set out in the Union’s guidance.

QUESTIONS after BREXIT?

For teachers living and working in EU and EU teachers living and working here.

- Right to work
- Taxation and benefits
- Equal treatment
- Training and recognition
- Teachers’ rights

Booklet available from: www.nasuwt.org.uk

Supply Teachers’ Network Days

To reserve a place contact:
rc-yorksandhumb@mail.nasuwt.org.uk
18 February 2017
and
31 May 2017

NASUWT Supply Teachers’ Network Days are held throughout the year. Topics covered are designed to equip supply teachers with the skills and knowledge to undertake their professional duties. Topics vary and include subjects such as whiteboard training, behaviour management, ICT skills and assertiveness training.

BOOK NOW

03330 145550

conferencesandevents@mail.nasuwt.org.uk
www.nasuwt.org.uk

Black and Minority Ethnic Teachers’ Consultation Conference
Birmingham

ALL EVENTS FREE TO NASUWT MEMBERS

Free accommodation and an evening meal on the evening before the events will be provided as appropriate.