

# Education Struggles are Our Struggles

This year is going to see struggles across education. Whether over pensions, redundancies, fees, or department closures, solidarity is going to be key to winning any dispute.

We must stand together. First and foremost, this means not crossing picket lines. If there's a strike on, no matter if you're student or staff, **don't** cross picket lines. If in doubt, call in sick.



If you're in a striking union, make it a priority to reach out to other workers. With so many unions across education (and even more across the public sector), what's needed is *industrial* organisation. Remember that not all education workers are teachers—there's support staff, kitchen staff, cleaning staff, and building and IT workers, too—and speak to *all* your workmates about the importance of picket lines.

Student solidarity is one of the most powerful allies education workers have. If you're in sixth-form or university, link up with campus staff. Every school has staff militants and politicised students and all it takes is a small dedicated group to push struggles forward. Get creative: start a staff-student forum, make banners, write newsletters, hold talks, and support picket lines.

Remember, finally, that the issues facing today's education workers have a direct impact on tomorrow's workforce. When staff strike over pensions, they're striking to protect a system of pensions for their students, too. When any group of workers wins an above-inflation wage, that puts upward pressure on wages across the job market—including the jobs where students currently work and will work in the future.

All struggles are connected and a win for one group of workers is a win for all workers.



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