

Why are school staff going on strike?

A message to all parents and carers in Suffolk

Teachers and support staff at your child's school are joining the national strike action on Wednesday 30th November.

We know this may be inconvenient for you but we hope you will understand why we are doing this and that you will support us.

We do not like taking strike action but we believe we have no choice, because of what the government is trying to do to our pensions.

The strike is against the changes the government wants to make to our pensions. We believe these changes will be damaging for education and for other public services.

Below we list some of the facts about our pensions we think you should know. For more information please talk to staff at your school.

FACT ONE

Public sector workers are being asked to pay 50% more for their pensions, work longer and get a smaller pension when they retire – many people will be expected to work until they are 68 or even later.

FACT TWO

Many private sector workers have no proper pension scheme, and 2.5 million pensioners live in poverty. The government should be acting on this. Reducing our pensions will not help these people.

FACT THREE

Cutting public sector pensions will just make more pensioners poorer and put the cost of supporting them on to the State and taxpayers.

FACT FOUR

Damaging our pensions will lead to more shortages in schools and higher turnover of staff, which will damage children's education.

FACT FIVE

Our pensions are affordable. Reports from the National Audit Office and the House of Commons' Public Accounts Committee show that the cost of public sector pensions is falling as planned.

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